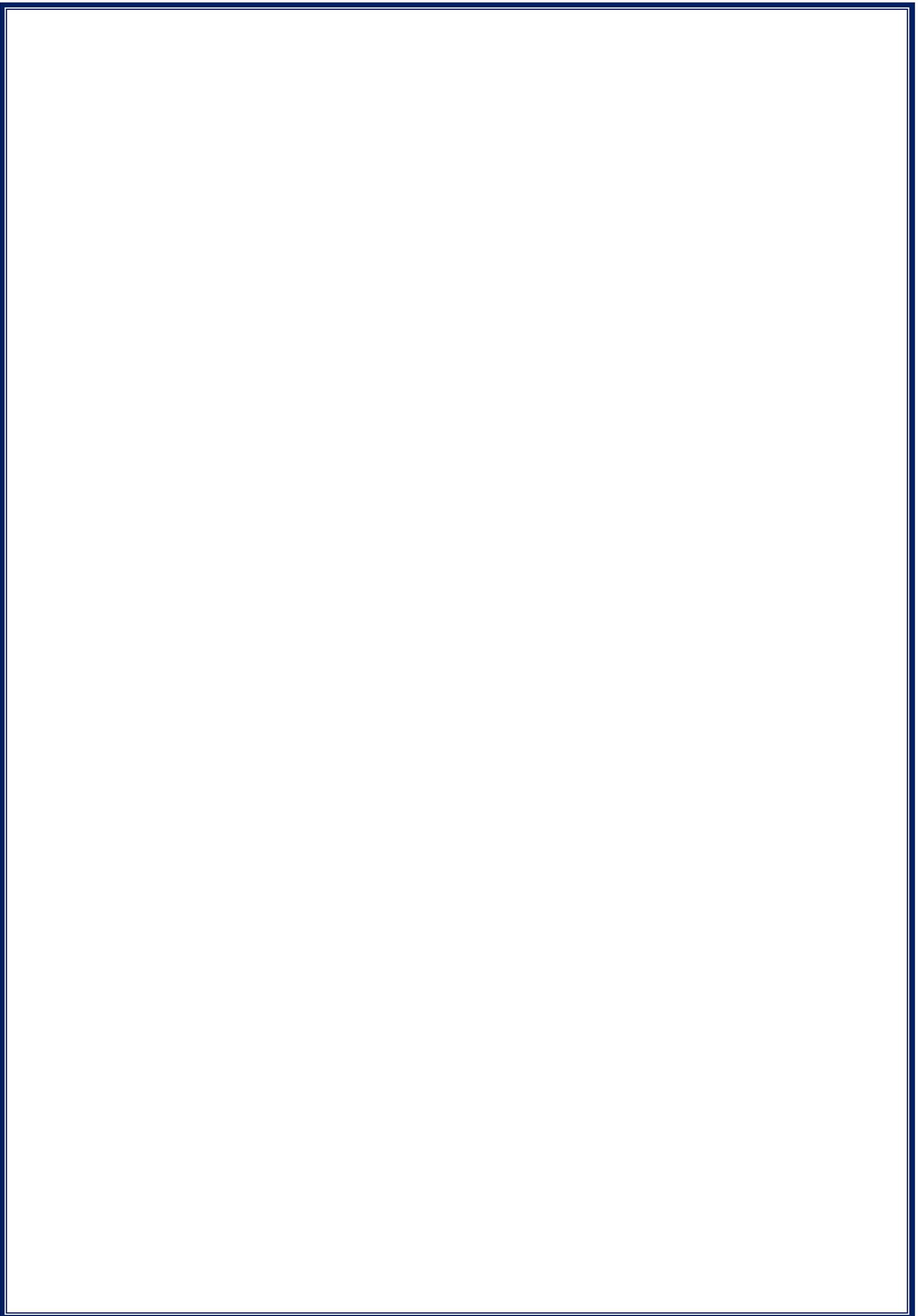




Annual Report 2017







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Committee of Management-Governance 2017

Current Members	Organisation
Barbara O'Brien	Benalla College
Adrian Farrer	Cathedral College
Joanne Rock	FCJ College
Louise Pearce	GOTAFE
Felicity Williams	The Centre
Pat Claridge	Tomorrow Today Foundation
Denis O'Callaghan	Gordon Legal
Judy O'Loughlin	Australian Munitions
Joanne Ryan	Merriwa Industries
Ben Watts	Community member
Barbara Alexander	Benalla Rural City
Margaret Attley	Mansfield Shire Council
Darren Moffitt	North East Victorian Koorie Organisations
Albert Freijah	Department of Education and Training



Chairperson's Report 2017



There are two things that make Local learning and Employment Networks (LLEN) a unique concept in Victoria:

- i) There are 31 LLEN's spread across the state that are situated in, focused on and run by, Local communities.
- ii) LLEN's are not a service provider however they have a responsibility to create and/or support partnerships or projects that link groups which are connected with or concerned about, the transition of young people successful through the education system.

With that as background and from a Governance perspective, NE Tracks LLEN had a highly successful year in 2017, with achievements including:

- Managing our contracted responsibilities with the Department of Education and Training
- Financial responsibilities and budgets met to the satisfaction of our external auditors
- NE Tracks LLEN continues to theme its operational focus in accordance with our 2016-19 strategic plan.
- With strong support from all our major partners, we continue our operational model based on the needs of individual communities of Mansfield, Benalla and Wangaratta.

This Annual Report will provide readers with information and evidence of a successful 2017; I am proud of the initiatives and partnerships that our LLEN is continuing to be part of, to assist in connecting to and inspiring young people in our three communities in their education experiences and pathways to a bright future.

The committee has worked well together and we continue to have excellent committee member attendance and member contributions at meetings I would like to acknowledge and thank the following:

- Fellow Committee of Management members for their support and commitment to NE Tracks LLEN
- All members of the NE Tracks LLEN
- While too numerous to name- every organisation and individual in Mansfield, Wangaratta and Benalla who supported the LLEN in 2017
- Deputy Chair Marg Attley for her ongoing support
- Tomorrow Today Foundation ably led by Pat Claridge and staff; a large proportion of their work directly assists young people attend and pathway through school
- Danny O'Donoghue who has provided outstanding leadership and collaboration skills across the network and 3 regions our LLEN serves
- Staff of the LLEN who undertook their roles with passion and enthusiasm.

I look forward to working with Committee members, LLEN members and partners into the future.

Louise Pearce

Committee of Management Chairperson



Executive Officer's Report 2017



2017 was an exciting year for NE Tracks LLEN as we continue to forge both more and stronger partnerships across our three Local Government Areas of Benalla, Mansfield and Wangaratta.

As you read the description of some of the projects and partnerships contained in this report you will note that our LLEN is working with each of our communities independently to assist young people to attend, stay in and transition through secondary education.

In addition to our place based activity in each community, we continue to work across our LLEN supporting partnerships that provide generic opportunities, information and assistance to young people and schools in areas such as:

- Career advice and support and individual hands on activities to encourage students in vocational based careers
- Raising student aspirations to attend, continue with and pathway through school education to year 12 or equivalent
- Expose schools and young people to the skills and attributes required to enter the contemporary workforce where the proliferation of technology generally, robotics, artificial intelligence is spreading rapidly
- Working directly with schools, young people and business to encourage the take up of structured workplace learning, including school based apprenticeships
- Placing a strong emphasis on promoting the vocational areas in which there is strong demand for future workers such as Agriculture/Horticulture, Health and allied services, Engineering and Transports/Logistics.

In closing, I would like to acknowledge the contribution of, and thank the following:

- Committee of Management Chairperson, Louise Pearce and Deputy Chair Marg Attley for their guidance and support through 2017
- Administrative Working Party members Louise Pearce, Denis O'Callaghan and Joanne Ryan for their sound judgement and advice on financial, human resources and other critical matters
- Committee members for their loyalty and commitment to the future of young people in our communities and contribution to sound Governance
- Hardworking and loyal staff members Anne Shaw, Shane Crispin, Jackie Cesnik, John Blanchard and Leone Bonnes who regularly go "above and beyond" their scheduled working day.

Danny O'Donoghue
Executive Officer



2017 Operations Report

1. EXAMPLES OF PARTNERSHIPS IN EACH OF THE COMMUNITIES

i) Mansfield PROJECT ROCKIT

It is widely known that cyber bullying has a strong negative effect on young people, sufficient to impact their lives in many ways including their ability to engage in learning in a productive way.

NE Tracks LLEN Mansfield coordinator, Jackie Cesnik gathered information in 2017 that cyber bullying was impacting young people in their town.

With strong community and schools support, NE Tracks secured the services of an organisation called 'Project Rokit' that specialises in running workshops that empower young people to understand that respect and kindness can thrive over bullying, hate and prejudice and give students practical skills to help conquer cyber bullying.

96% of all Project Rokit participants favour the project. All schools in Mansfield participated in this event.



ii) Benalla BENALLA YOUTH SERVICES PROVIDERS NETWORK (BYSPN) - LIVE4LIFE

Live4Life is a mental health education and youth suicide prevention strategy led by Benalla Rural City Council and supported by a strong community partnership which includes FCJ College Benalla, Benalla P-12 College, Benalla Flexible Learning Centre, North East Tracks LLEN, Victoria Police, Benalla Health, Tomorrow Today Foundation, North East Support and Action for Youth Inc. (NESAY), North East Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (NECAMHS), Central Hume Primary Care Partnership, and Youth Live4Life Inc.

The strength of the Life4Life program is in the community partnering with schools and committing to strategically work on building resilience and capacity in our young people. It is an evidence based program and was designed and implemented in the Macedon Ranges Shire in 2009 in response to a spike in youth suicide rates.





This whole of community initiative was successfully piloted in Benalla during 2017 with support from Life4Life Inc, the Myer Foundation and donations from local partners such as NE Tracks LLEN. It will continue in 2018 after attracting further support from Murray Primary Health Network and the Department of Health and Human Services.

A group of young people in years nine and ten from FCJ and Benalla P-12, known as the Benalla Live4Life Youth Crew, are involved with planning, organising and hosting Life4Life promotional events including a launch in March and an end of year celebration in October each year.

iii) Wangaratta

FAMILY LEARNING PARTNERSHIP (FLP)

NE Tracks LLEN in partnership with Maternal Child and Health Centres, Child care centres, Learn Locals and other family service providers in Wangaratta received funding to support Family Learning Partnerships.

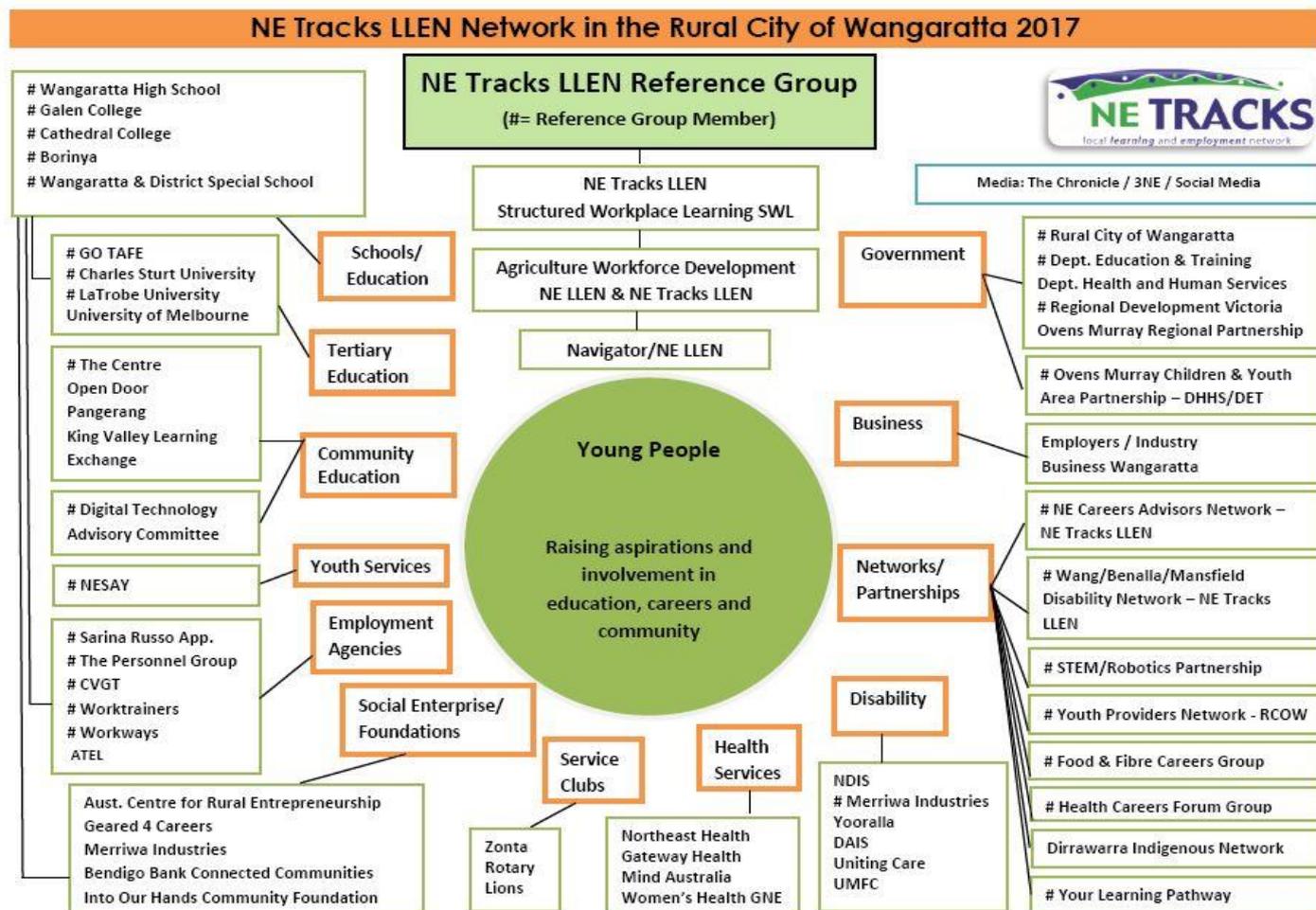
The Family Learning Partnership (FLP) project engages parents and primary carers who have previously experienced barriers to education and now have children at risk of disengaging from school, into learning and skills development. FLP recognises the important influence primary carers have on their children's participation in school and learning. The project works in collaboration with local primary and secondary schools providing learning opportunities for parents and primary carers within the familiar environment of their children's school. Learner groups identified as requiring particular focus through the FLP project include:

- Women, young mothers, women seeking to re-enter the workforce, women who have, or are, experiencing family violence
- People in low socio-economic status localities
- Early school leavers
- Indigenous people
- Low skilled and vulnerable workers
- Unemployed/underemployed workers
- People from a culturally or linguistically diverse background
- People with a disability
- Young people who may be at risk of disengaging or who may have already disengaged from the community and/or education.



Wangaratta LLEN Operation

The 'Network Map' below, of the Wangaratta Community as an example, indicates a busy and complex environment surrounding the support of young people.





ACROSS THE LLEN

2. EXAMPLES OF PARTNERSHIPS THAT REACH ACROSS NE Tracks LLEN

2.1 DTAC- DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE- A quintessential ongoing and sustainable LLEN partnership

The Digital Technology Advisory Committee (DTAC) was formed in 2016 with representatives from NE Tracks LLEN, Galen Catholic College, Charles Sturt University and GOTAFE. The goal of DTAC is to foster the development and talent of our students and teachers through STEM activities, to create Digital citizens, Digital workers and Digital makers.

STEM studies develop scientific, technological, engineering and mathematical literacy and promote the development of 21st century skills of problem solving, critical analysis and creative thinking.

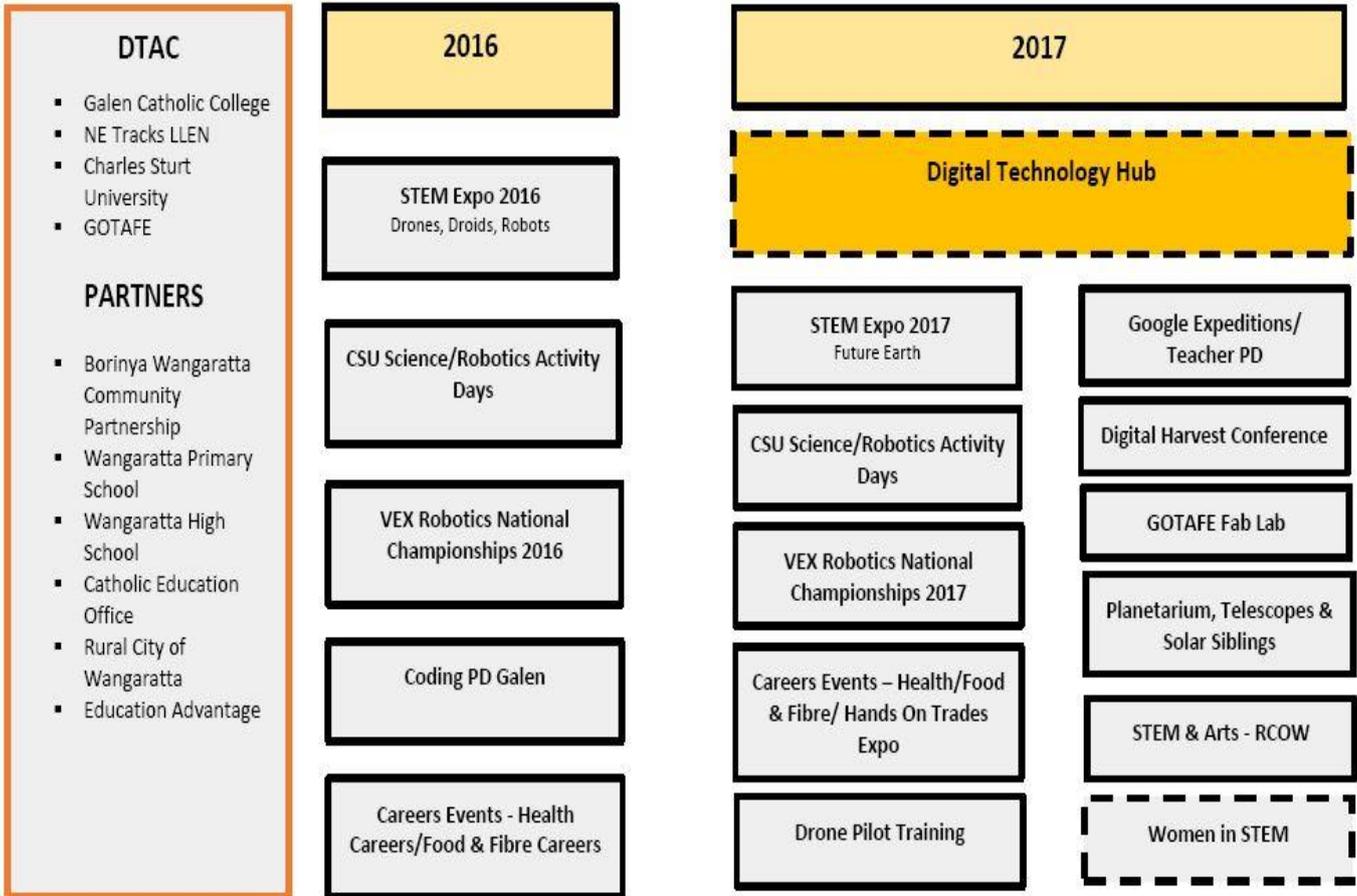
Building on the success, excitement and high levels of participation at the 2016 STEM events, DTAC hosted the 2017 STEM Expo based on the theme 'Future Earth' and the 2017 VEX National Championships, which included teams from across Australia. One of the Galen teams WON !!! the National Championships, which earned them a place at the World VEX Robotics Championships in Kentucky USA in April 2018.

In addition to these two signature events, the DTAC partnership also organised and facilitated other STEM events including the inaugural Digital Harvest Conference, a full day workshop attended by 60 regional educators; provision of a digital equipment resource library available for use by regional primary and secondary schools; and a strong STEM component in all of our Career Days.





WANGARATTA DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE – STEM MAP SEPTEMBER 2017





2.2 CAREER EVENTS- FOOD AND FIBRE CAREERS & HEALTH CAREERS

2.2.1 FOOD AND FIBRE CAREERS

- 2 day event Dookie

NE Tracks LLEN, in conjunction with Goulburn-Murray LLEN and Campaspe-Cohuna LLEN, partnered with University of Melbourne, Charles Sturt University, GOTAFE, Wodonga TAFE, Rural City of Wangaratta, City of Greater Shepparton, Dairy Australia and 4Upskilling to provide a strong cross-regional partnership to promote the food and fibre sector as a viable career option.

In May 2017, over 280 Year 9-12 students from 24 secondary and alternate setting schools from across the North East and Goulburn regions attended 'Dookie Day', a showcase of careers and pathways into 21st century agriculture. Hands-on workshops included the traditional themes of beef, dairy, sheep, conservation horticulture, animal and plant lab sciences, genetics and veterinary technology. Additions to the 2017 program included Water Efficiency & Conservation; Transport, Tractors & Technology; and Indigenous Agriculture.

2.2.2 HEALTH CAREERS FORUM

173 students from 12 regional secondary schools attended the annual Health Careers Forum and participated in a broad range of interactive workshops showcasing opportunities and career options available in the health sector.

The Health Careers Forum is delivered by a partnership between NE Tracks LLEN, CSU, Northeast Health Wangaratta, GOTAFE, Department of Health and Human Services and Rural City of Wangaratta.

The 2017 event, hosted for the first time at the Wangaratta Regional Study Centre, is highly regarded by teachers and students in our region and is now an established event on the regional careers calendar.



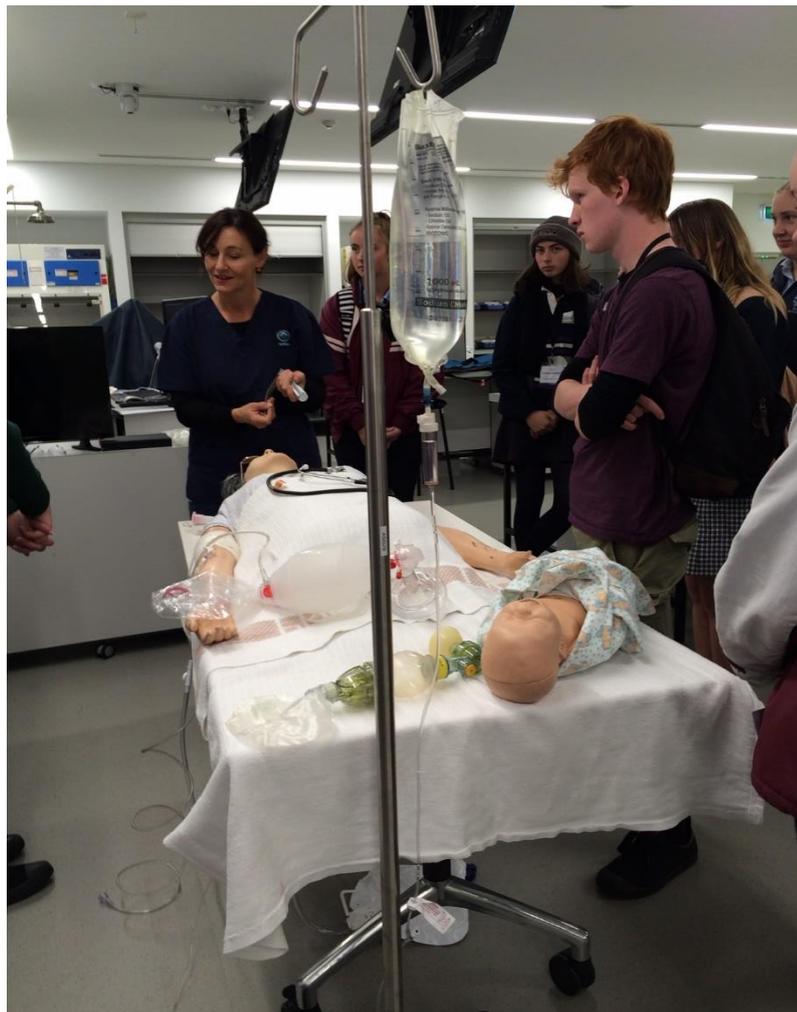


2.3 NORTH EAST CAREER ADVISORS ASSOCIATION (NECAA)

NE Tracks LLEN, in collaboration with Charles Sturt University, facilitates a regional network for career practitioners to support teachers and career advisors from secondary schools in Wangaratta, Benalla, Bright, Myrtleford, Beechworth, Rutherglen and Mansfield.

Members of the network also include tertiary education providers and job service providers.

The NECAA network shares information and resources promoting pathways and career options for students. In response to the low numbers of careers advisors in NE schools with current and relevant careers qualifications, NE Tracks LLEN and CSU jointly hosted a professional development session in Wangaratta in conjunction with Careers Education Association of Victoria. 10 teachers attended the Careers Upskilling session and gained valuable skills and knowledge to support their students. An added bonus was the enhancement of the connections and mentoring support for regional Careers Advisors. Due to strong demand, planning for a second PD session in early 2018 was implemented. NECAA continues to advocate for an increased profile for Career Advisory services, working with schools, tertiary providers and the Department of Education to further this initiative.





2.4 PATHWAYS AND TRANSITIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY

Wangaratta, Benalla and Mansfield Disability Network

NE Tracks LLEN, in conjunction with the National Disability Coordination Officer (NDCO) and local disability employment providers, facilitates the regional Disability Services Network. Partners from Wangaratta, Benalla and Mansfield meet to discuss current information and programs for transitions for young people with a disability, from school into the workplace.

A need for knowledge and updates on the implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme has seen the membership of the Disability Network increase to over 50 members from across the region.

Representatives from local government, job service providers, education and training providers, local employers, and community health organisations actively participate in this group.



2.5 OVENS & MURRAY CHILDREN AND YOUTH AREA PARTNERSHIP

Children and Youth Area Partnerships have established new ways of working at the local level to support better outcomes for vulnerable children, young people and their families. Area Partnerships, facilitated by Department of Education and Department of Health and Human Services, use a collective impact approach to help drive improved outcomes. They bring together the most senior representatives in a local area from State, Commonwealth and local governments, the community sector and the broader community.

Each Area Partnership focuses on what needs to change in their communities to:

- * support learning and development, from Cradle to career
- * create safe and supportive communities and environments in which children and young people live free of abuse and neglect

Anne Shaw is an Area Partnership Steering Committee member, initially as a community Representative when the Area Partnership was initially formed, and currently as part of her NE Tracks LLEN role.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH
AREA PARTNERSHIPS



2.6 STRUCTURED WORKPLACE LEARNING (SWL) PROGRAM 2017

The SWL program in 2017 achieved great success in so many areas. The established online SWL placement portal once again allowed the program to engage more students, schools and local employers with a very high number of quality opportunities successfully utilised. There was an increase in school based apprenticeships, in particular in the agricultural field.

Another success of the program during the year was the very positive engagement of the hospitality and health industries through projects including the James Place Restaurant, the Murray River Culinary Challenge and the North East Health Careers Forum which involved an increase in placements across both sectors including with local employers, local & state government and community agencies. The SWL program supported many important events including annual business awards, networking gatherings, school after hour events including education events.



The highlight success of the SWL Program for the 2017 year was the key new school, industry and training provider's partnership which hosted the inaugural Hands on Trades Career Expo at Winton Motor Raceway. 34 quality hands on trade exhibitors enabled 704 students to experience hands on trades related activities including bricklaying, panel beating, spray painting, dyno testing cars, mechanical repairs including a wheel change timed competition, oil & filter changes, sports leap & strength pull tests, hospitality tasks including making cakes, putting together plumbing pipes, 3D printing, using hydraulic systems, hair styling, colouring nails, operating motors by hand and animal handling.

Key exhibitors on the day included Delatite Ford, Dosser Panels, Whitlands Engineering, Australian Defence Force, Victoria Police, Australian Brick & Block Laying Federation, Wodonga Tafe, GOTAFE, apprenticeship providers Sarina Russo, Atel, MEGT and Apprenticeships Matter. As part of the day a networking lunch was held for 210 people with representatives from local councils, business networks, school principals, employers, community agencies which showcased local students, apprenticeship, disability and educational providers within our region.

Schools, students and industry embraced this very successful day. The event greatly increased the awareness of trades on offer and also forged new cooperation with our key partners in providing on going SBAT and SWL placements with our regions employers. The Hands On Trades Career Expo also involved the FCJ College VCAL students in the planning, set up, event day operations including catering and all related aspects to the running of the event, allowing them to learn real skills in real time. Their participation as part of the knowledgeable committee was a time representation of SWL placement experiential learning aligned to their respective qualifications.



A quote from one of the local bus drivers who regularly transports students to career days. “That’s the first time I have picked up students from a career’s day, heard so many of the students saying how great the day was and it’s also the first time I have not been required to clean all the career handouts off the floor of the bus”.

Overall, more than 220 students were assisted under this program to link their workplace learning options to strengthen their skills and pathways to future learning and / or work.



Winton Hands on Careers



Financial Report

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2017

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2017

	2017 \$	2016 \$
Members Funds		
Accumulated Funds	62352	62433
Represented by Current Assets		
Cash Assets	171107	230755
Receivables	137921	44698
Other		
Non Current Assets		
Furniture, Equipment & Motor Vehicle	8424	19573
Total Assets	317452	295026
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	233404	214290
Employee Leave Entitlements	11038	
Non Current Liabilities		
Employee Leave Entitlements	10657	18303
Total Liabilities	255099	232593
Net Assets	62353	62433

	2017 \$	2016 \$
Revenue from rendered services	519758	372160
Other revenues from ordinary activities	47507	24378
Total Revenue	567265	396538
Expenditure from ordinary activities		
Employment Expenses		
Salaries and Oncosts	251970	234529
Depreciation Expenses	11149	15571
Borrowing Costs		
Other expenses from ordinary activities		
Consulting and Projects	222002	77688
Administration and Operating Expenses	50288	51274
Vehicle Expenses	27966	17688
Professional development	3972	1058
Total Expenses	567347	397808
Operating Surplus (Deficit) for the Year	-82	-1270

A full suite of financial reports including the Statement of Cash Flows and Notes to the Financial Statements are available upon request to the Executive Officer.

NE tracks Local Learning and Employment network Inc.
ABN 18 598 926 337





Independent Auditor's Report



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF NE TRACKS LLEN

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

I have audited the financial report of NE Tracks LLEN, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2017, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of accounting policies, and the responsible persons' declaration.

In my opinion the financial report of NE Tracks LLEN has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the registered entity's financial position as at 31 December 2017 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of my report. I am independent of the registered entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the code.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Other Information

The responsible persons are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the registered entity's annual report for the year ended 31 December 2017, but does not include the financial report and my auditor's report thereon.

My opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial report, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact. I have nothing to report in this regard.

+1 Group
27 Weisford Street Shepparton VIC 3630
Phone 03 5833 3000 Fax 03 5831 2968
Web plus1group.com.au
Email info@plus1group.com.au



+1 Accountants
Mcpaels Pty Ltd/ATF Mcpaels Trust
ABN 25 826 216 547
PO Box 1376
Shepparton, VIC 3632

+1 Wealth Advisors
Smithed Wealth Managers Pty Ltd
ABN 20 108 328 284 AFSL 302211
PO Box 933
Shepparton, VIC 3632

+1 Audit
Plus 1 Audit Pty Ltd
ABN 60 125 287 025
PO Box 1376
Shepparton, VIC 3632



Responsibilities of Responsible persons for the Financial Report

The responsible persons of the registered entity are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the ACNC Act, and for such internal control as the responsible persons determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, responsible persons are responsible for assessing the registered entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the responsible persons either intends to liquidate the registered entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The responsible persons are responsible for overseeing the registered entity's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the registered entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by responsible persons.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the responsible person's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the registered entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the registered entity to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the responsible persons regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

K. Joachim
KAVITHA JOACHIM
RCA 495489
Dated: 07. 03. 2018



Member Statement

NE TRACKS LOCAL LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT NETWORK INCORPORATED
ABN: 18 598 926 337

COMMITTEE REPORT

Your committee members present this report on the association for the financial year ended 31 December 2017.

The names of each person who has been a committee member during the year are:

Louise Pearce
Margaret Attley
Denis O'Callaghan
Joanne Ryan
Patricia Claridge
Adrian Farrer
Albert Freijah

Chair / Public Officer
Deputy Chair
Treasurer
Assistant Treasurer

Darren Moffitt
Barbara O'Brien
Judy O'Loughlin
Felicity Williams
Joanne Rock
Barbara Alexandra
Ben Watts

Operating Result

The net financial result for the financial year was a loss of \$ (82). 2016 a loss of \$ (1270).

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were to develop and maintain community partnerships for the purpose of supporting young people with learning and employment opportunities.

After Balance Date Events

At the date of this report no matters have arisen since 31 December 2017 that have or may significantly affect:

- i) The operations of the association;
- ii) The result of those operations; or
- iii) The state of affairs of the association in the financial year subsequent to the 31 December 2017.

Future Developments

There are no likely developments that will significantly affect the operations of the association in the coming year.

Indemnities

No indemnities have been given or insurance premiums paid, during or since the end of the financial year, for any person who is or has been an officer or auditor of the association.

No person has applied for leave of Court to bring proceedings on behalf of the association or intervene in proceedings to which the association is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the association for all or any part of those proceedings.

The association was not a part of any such proceedings during the year.

Signed on behalf of committee members of the association.

Louise Pearce - Chair

Patricia Claridge - Member

Dated: 31st January 2018.