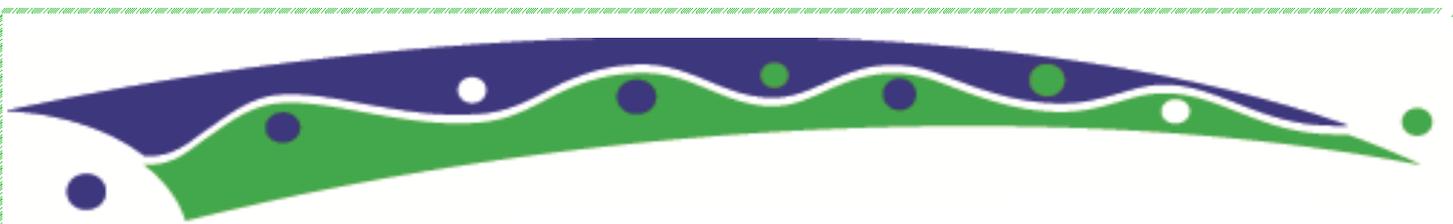




Annual Report 2016



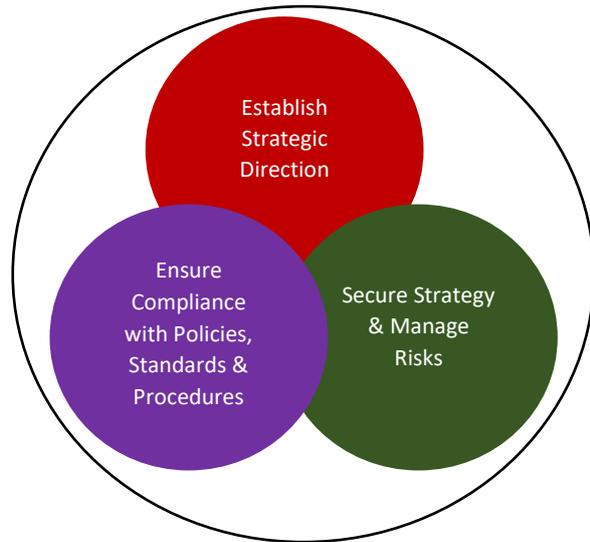


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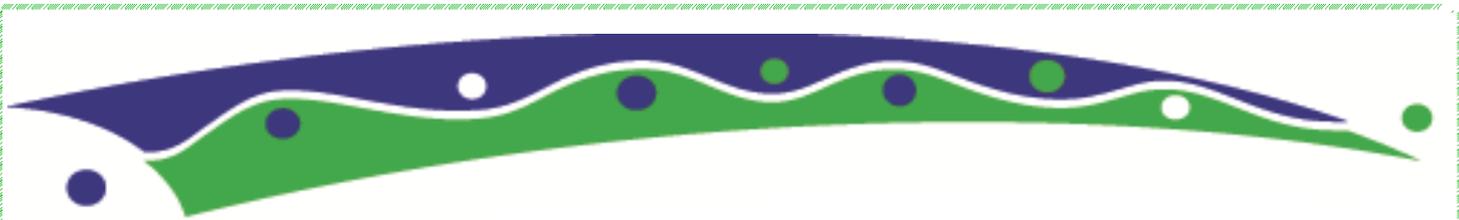


Governance



Committee of Management – Governance 2016

Membership Category	Current members	Representative
Schools	Benalla College	Barbara O'Brien
	Cathedral College	Adrian Farrer
	FCJ College	Joanne Rock
TAFE Institutes or Universities with TAFE sectors	GOTAFE	Louise Pearce
Adult Community Education Organisations	The Centre	Felicity Williams
Other education and training organisations	Tomorrow Today Foundation	Pat Claridge
Trade Unions	Trades Hall Council	Denis O'Callaghan
Employers and employment agencies	Australian Munitions	Judy O'Loughlin
	Merriwa Industries	Joanne Ryan
	Sarina Russo Apprenticeships	Ben Watts
Local Governments	Rural City of Wangaratta	Vacant position
	Benalla Rural City	Barbara Alexander
	Mansfield Shire Council	Margaret Attley
Other Community Agencies and organisations, Commonwealth and State government departments, ACFE, Regional Youth Councils	Dept Education and Training	Albert Freijah
		Vacant position
Koorie organisations, Peak Koorie agencies and Regional Koorie organisations	North East Victorian Koorie Organisations	Darren Moffitt
Community Members	Community Member	
Co-opted Members		Vacant position
		Vacant position



Chair Annual Report 2016



2016 was an exciting year for the NE Tracks LLEN focussing on implementing our 2016-19 Strategic Plan. The commitment by the State government of funding for the next 4 years gave us the confidence and ability to enter into key strategic partnerships that extend beyond one year and can assist with sustainable and measurable impacts for young people in our region.

2016 saw NE Tracks LLEN enter into several medium/long term strategic partnerships with organisations including:

- Department of Education and Training (DET) to deliver Structured Workplace Learning Programs
- NESAY supporting the School Focused Youth Services Program
- Benalla Youth Services Providers Network

The operational aspects of these partnerships are further detailed within this report for your information.

We are so lucky to work in communities where there is a strong commitment to *'making a difference'* for our local young people through education, training, employment and pathway opportunities. Our LLEN members work hard to build and maintain community partnerships and pathways that assist with these aims.

Key to achieving our goals is partnerships with employers, schools, TAFE's, Adult Education, universities, local government and other community organisations who have aligned values and are working with similar intent. I take this opportunity to acknowledge these organisation for their energetic and sincere support, co-operation and assistance throughout 2016.

The Committee has worked well with excellent Committee member attendance and contribution 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 2016
- Deputy Chair Marg Attley for her ongoing support
- Pat Claridge from Tomorrow Today foundation for her ongoing support
- 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.

This Annual Report highlights some of the programs and projects that our LLEN has either lead or contributed to throughout 2016, and I look forward to seeing the outcomes of new initiatives that are underway in 2017.

Louise Pearce

Committee of Management Chairperson

Executive Officer's report 2016



2016 was both figuratively and literally a fresh start for NE Tracks LLEN.

Unlike the previous three years where we were operating on a year by year funding model with a very uncertain future, 2016 was the first of four years of guaranteed government funding 2016 – 2019, plus LLENs were chosen to manage the Structured Workplace Learning Program.

Coincidentally with that, NE Tracks LLEN finished the year with a significant change in our structure and staffing. Anne Shaw replaced Ashley Forster as our Wangaratta Partnerships Coordinator, Jackie Cesnik took up the role of Mansfield Partnerships Coordinator, and Leone Bonnes was appointed to the Administration role after a decision was made to split the Administration/Finance position in two; John Blanchard continued managing the finance side. Shane Crispin was successful from a strong field in securing the Structured Workplace Learning Coordinator position – a role he successfully undertook for many years when the program was being run by The Centre.

With confidence about the future, the LLEN team worked extremely well together and achieved some excellent outcomes in partnerships, projects and programs that reflect our strategic objectives.

This report highlights some of these achievements and I commend the report to you.

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

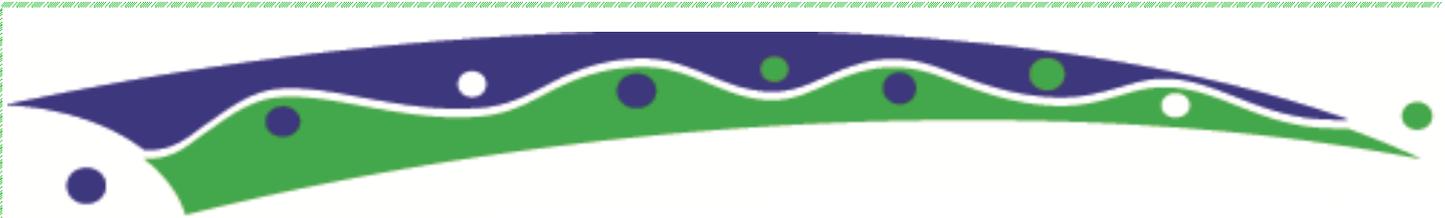
- Committee of Management Chair, Louise Pearce and Deputy Chair Marg Attley, for your guidance and support throughout 2016.
- The administrative working party members, Louise Pearce, Denis O'Callaghan and Jo Ryan for your sound judgement and advice on financial matters, administration and human resources.
- Committee members for your loyalty and commitment to the future of young people in our communities and sound governance.
- Hardworking and loyal staff who regularly go "above and beyond" their scheduled workload.



VCAL Awards partnerships: Shane Crispin (NE Tracks LLEN, Chris Harvison (Wangaratta District Special School, Ali Alexander (Café Pre Vue), Rosie O'Brien and Jodie Webb (WSSC)



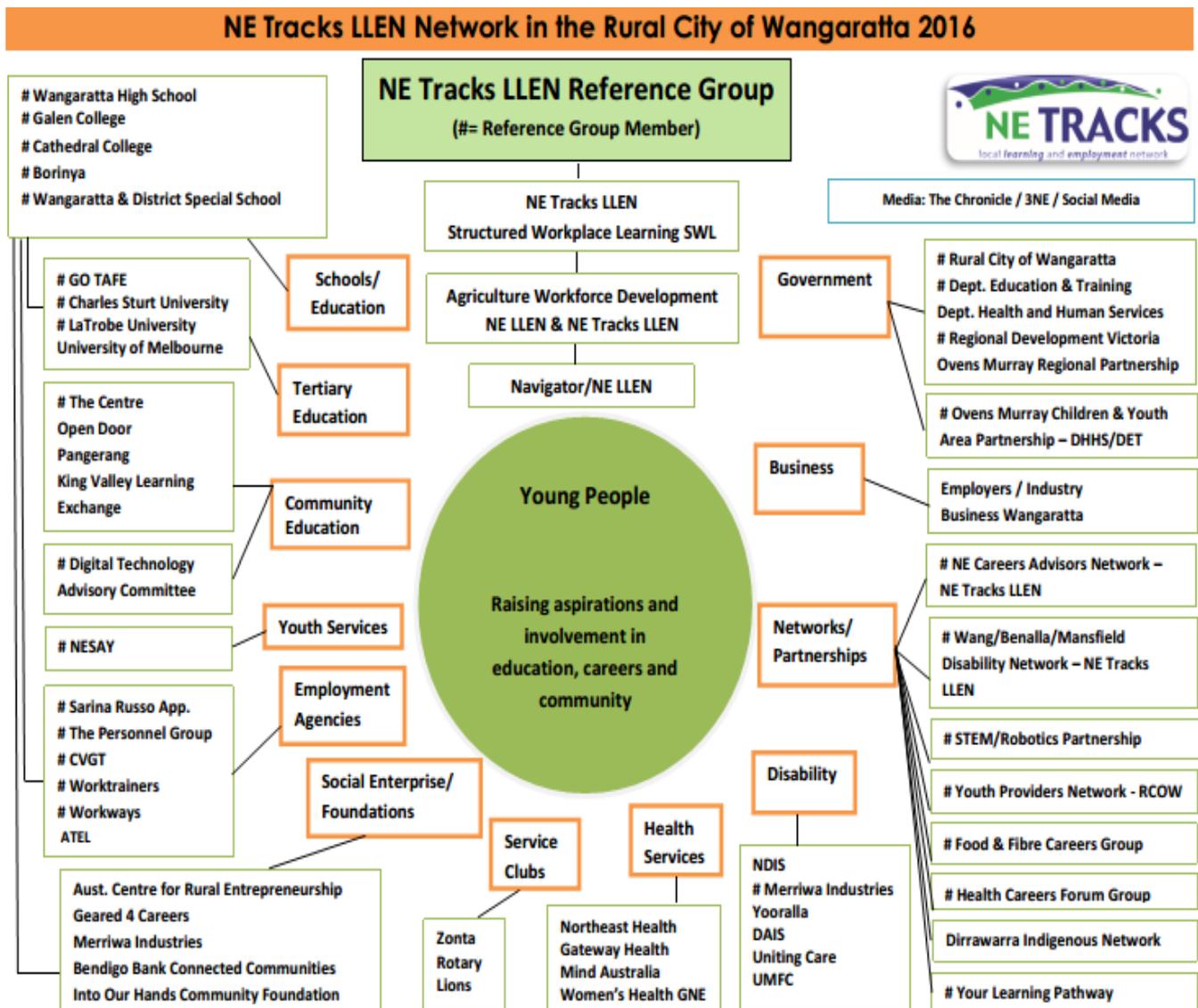
Danny O'Donoghue
Executive Officer



2016 LLEN Operations

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

The key to success of LLENs is to form sometimes simple, sometimes more complex partnerships between these organisations to effectively and efficiently provide targeted assistance and support especially to the more vulnerable young people in all our communities.



A QUINTESSENTIAL LLEN PARTNERSHIP – a Case Study

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Expo Wangaratta, August 2016

Background: The goal of each of the 31 LLENs across Victoria is to “...support young people 10 – 19 years old... by improving their participation, engagement, attainment and transition outcomes”.

On March 30th 2016, NE Tracks LLEN Executive Officer, Danny O’Donoghue, received an email from a hitherto unknown science teacher asking for assistance to plan and conduct a STEM expo during the nominated science week in August 2016.

Danny arranged to meet Ms Timms to establish her bona fides and her school’s support for the initiative.

The Project Partnership and Planning: A primary partnership was quickly established consisting of representatives from NE Tracks LLEN, Galen Catholic College Wangaratta, Charles Sturt University and GOTAFE. The Rural City of Wangaratta later became a partner when it

generously supported the project with \$8,000 from their “Small Grants” program.

Planning sessions were held on a weekly or fortnightly basis as required from April through to August ’16.

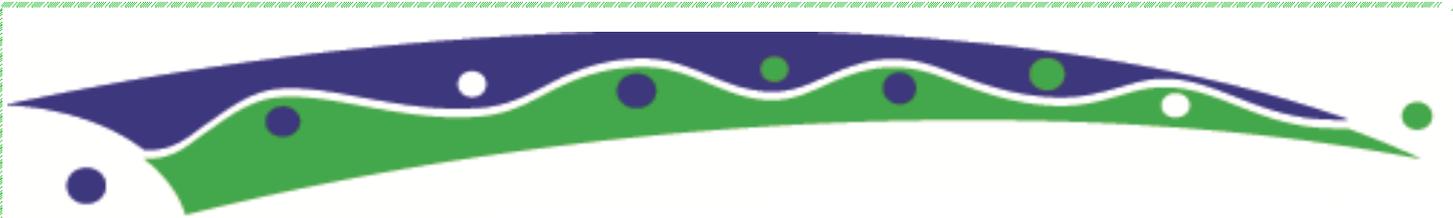
Additional partners were engaged throughout the planning process including Central Ranges LLEN, exhibitors and other schools in the region.



Above: Galen Science teacher and STEM organizer Maree Timms, GoTAFE Youth Engagement Officer Kel Vincent and Year 8 student Lachlan Carboon began to program a brand new NAO Robot last Friday.

The Event:

- Approximately 400 students from 12 schools participated
- Around 230 parents, students, teachers and others attended the “community session”
- 18 exhibitors were present including local, Melbourne based and Interstate
- Over 90% of students enjoyed the expo
- Almost 80% students wanted to study sciences and STEM after school
- 30 “Google Expedition” kits were purchased for ongoing use in classrooms and community groups to increase the excitement and interest in STEM.



Unintended Additional Positive Outcome:

VEX Robotic Championships - Dec 3 2016.

As an exhibitor at the STEM expo and excited by the enthusiasm and success of the STEM expo, VEX Robotics made a decision to change their annual event which was planned to be held in December at Albury, to Galen College Wangaratta.

NE Tracks LLEN supported two teams (Galen College Wangaratta and Borinya School Wangaratta) and NE LLEN supported Wodonga Middle Years College. Galen College and Borinya School teamed with the eventual winners.

Other Data Included:

- 32 teams participated
- 150 students and coaches
- 200 other visitors - community members, family of team members etc.
- YouTube live stream to people watching from around the world.



Summary:

It is no secret that technology is pervading every body's lives, every industry sector and every job/career. Young people are enthusiastic adoptors of technology and by introducing students to the actual and potential world of work involving technology raises hopes, aspirations, excitement and confidence about their place in a future workforce.

- This project was an outstanding success by any measure and NE Tracks LLEN will continue to create or participate in partnerships that inspire hope and confidence in young people.



NORTH EAST CAREER ADVISORS ASSOCIATION (NECAA)

NE Tracks LLEN, in conjunction with the School Outreach Coordinator at Charles Sturt University, facilitates a regional network for career practitioners to support teachers and career practitioners from secondary schools in Wangaratta, Benalla, Bright, Myrtleford, Beechworth, Rutherglen and Mansfield.

Members of the network also include tertiary education providers; University of Melbourne, LaTrobe University, Charles Sturt University and GOTAFE.

The NECAA network shares information and resources promoting pathways and career options for students. As the provision of time and resource allocation for career advisors in North East schools is generally under resourced, NECAA is developing a program of professional development modules in conjunction with Careers Education Association of Victoria. NECAA facilitators are advocating for an increased profile for Career Advisory services and are working with schools, tertiary providers and the Department of Education to further this initiative.



STRATEGIC AGRIBUSINESS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT MODEL

During 2016, a joint project with North East LLEN, was developed to enhance sustainable pathways for young people into the vocational studies and employment opportunities available in the agriculture sector in this region.

The two neighbouring LLENS jointly engaged Julie Aldous, a former teacher at Mansfield Secondary College and winner of the 2014 Victorian Rural Industries Research and Development Corporate Rural Woman's award; Julie had an outstanding track record in supporting, educating and guiding young people in Mansfield towards a career in agriculture by linking existing curriculum to vocational options under the school based apprenticeships program and linking pathways to TAFE/University/employment.



In this role, Julie has been working with schools in the North East to promote this model of practice more broadly. Such is the interest from employers in the agribusiness sector that the two LLENS have jointly applied for further funding from Regional Development Victoria to develop and promote this model across the Health, Manufacturing, Transport and Logistics and Hospitality/Tourism sectors as a workforce development strategy.

FOOD and FIBRE CAREERS

Food & Fibre Careers – 2 day event Dookie

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

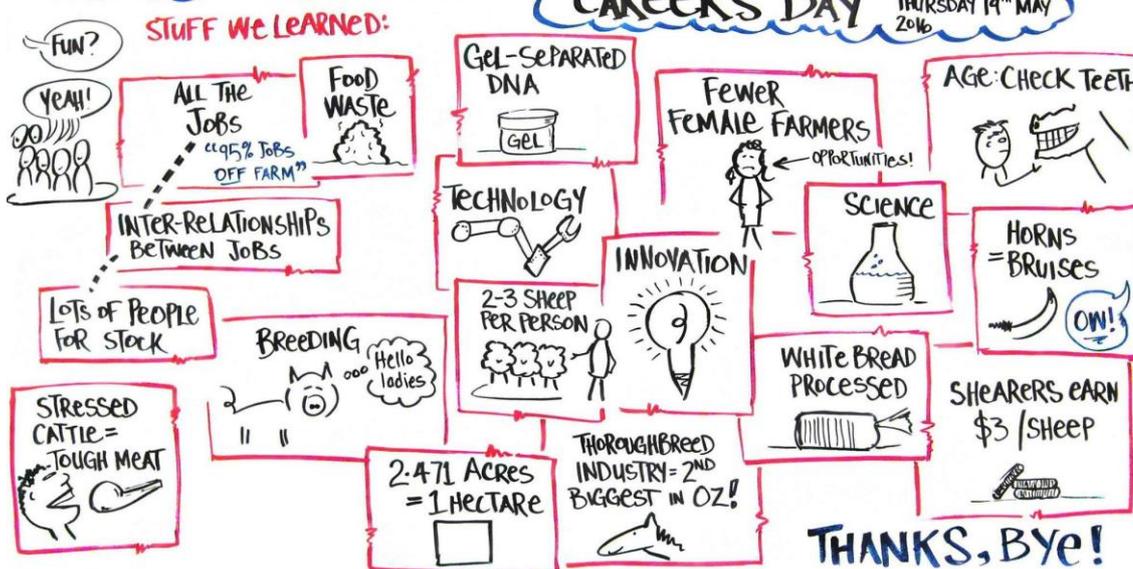
In May 2016, over 250 Year 9-12 students from secondary schools in Wangaratta, Benalla, Yea, Mansfield, Yarrawonga, Rushworth, Echuca, Beechworth, Rochester, and the greater Shepparton area attended 'Dookie Day', a showcase of careers and pathways into 21st century agriculture. Hands-on workshops included beef and dairy, sheep, conservation horticulture, animal and plant lab sciences, genetics and veterinary technology.

A cartoonist provided a before and after depiction of input from students and their thoughts and ideas on agriculture.



LATER THAT DAY... AT Dookie Food & Fibre Careers Day

THURSDAY 19TH MAY 2016



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.



MOCK INTERVIEWS – BENALLA P-12

Each year the LLEN participates with a partnership of organisations in assisting the Benalla P12 College undertake a program of “mock” job interviews.

This is taken very seriously by both students and interviewers and is based upon a potential “real” job; Students are guided by school staff to dress appropriately for each industry sector and to display positive body language during interviews.



OVENS & MURRAY CHILDREN AND YOUTH AREA PARTNERSHIP



Children and Youth Area Partnerships are establishing new ways of working at the local level, to more effectively join-up social services in Victoria at a system 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 formed, and more recently in her NE Tracks LLEN role.



STRUCTURED WORKPLACE LEARNING (SWL) PROGRAM 2016

The Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) initiative is focussed on students having access to opportunities to integrate practical on-the-job experience and learnings in industry with nationally recognised VET undertaken as part of either VCE or VCAL.

This opportunity provides the context for:

- enhanced skill development
- practical application of industry knowledge
- achievement of specific learning outcomes for VCAL units or VCE subjects
- enhanced employment opportunities

The coordinator for the NE Tracks LLEN LGAs is Shane Crispin; it is his role to assist schools and industry to broker quality placements for individual students into their workplace of choice.

The SWL program in 2016 achieved great success in many areas. With the beginning of the online SWL placement portal a concerted effort was made to engage students, schools and local employers with a large number of opportunities successfully facilitated including many School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships (SBAT).

Another success of the program during the year was the very positive engagement of the hospitality industry in the VCAL award winning James Place Restaurant project and the Murray River Culinary Challenge which involved a combined 34 placements with both being recognised formally and informally.

The SWL program supported many important events including our regions annual business awards networking gatherings, community forums including the Ovens Murray Partnership forum, school after hour events including career nights, mock interviews and parental career education events. A key new partnership forged during the year included an SBAT program with Wodonga TAFE, AG Skills Victoria.



*James Place Restaurant Project
Wangaratta District Secondary School students with
Café Pre Vue Mentors Dave and Kelly*



*Murray River Culinary Challenge
Galen College Students Chelsea Goeby and Hayley Steegstra*

The SWL program was involved in the successful North East Health Careers forum with further opportunities being opened up for students in the clinical and non-clinical SBAT program with North East Health our region's largest employer

Overall, more than 150 young people were assisted under this program to link with workplace learning options to strengthen their skills and pathways to future learning and/or work.



PARTNERSHIP WITH NESAY – School Focused Youth Services

Our LLEN partnered with, and supported projects under NESAY’s school focused youth services initiative in 2016:

1. SOAR Youth Development Inc. Based in Wangaratta, SOAR collaborates with NE Youth Development organisations and schools to design and deliver tailored and unique programs that engage both the young person and the youth worker.

The context for the program is around practical aviation based programs that teach risk management, decision making, life skills and building self-esteem.

2. Berry Street Model of Education This innovative project provides student centered strategies to teachers, and other allied youth and educational professionals with knowledge and skills about how to foster the learning development of students impacted by life trauma and thereby re engaging them in their learning progression and success.

In late 2016, NE Tracks LLEN and NESAY partnered to roll out this program in 2017 and 2018.



PARTNERSHIP WITH TOMORROW/TODAY FOUNDATION

NE Tracks LLEN is honoured to have a special long term partnership with TTF; Pat Claridge and her team are tireless in their commitment to young people in Benalla and outstanding in the outcomes they achieve. NE Tracks LLEN partners with TTF in many ways and across several project/programs that support the development of young people.

BENALLA YOUTH SERVICES PROVIDERS NETWORK (BYSPN)

NE Tracks is an active member of the partnership that supports this Network which has a primary focus on supporting the health and wellbeing of young people in Benalla.

Amanda Aldous who coordinates the network on behalf of the Benalla Rural City has excellent skills in being able to connect and communicate with all stakeholders and especially young people themselves.

Youth mental health and anxiety is well recognised as a disabling factor for young people trying to continue with their education and community enjoyment.

Whilst the LLEN role is to focus on learning engagement, skills development and quality pathways for young people into meaningful work, we acknowledge that the work of BYSPN scaffolds and supports the workforce of young people so that they are in a position mentally and physically to face the challenges put before them in their lives.

NE Tracks LLEN was delighted to enter into a formal partnership in 2016 that is supporting the implementation of the Live4Life program in 2017.



Financial Reports 2016

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2016

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Members Funds		
Accumulated Funds	62,433	63,703
	62,433	63,703
Represented by Current Assets		
Cash Assets	230,755	69,304
Receivables	44,698	2,4497
Other		
Non Current Assets		
Furniture, Equipment and Motor Vehicle	19,573	19,641
Total Assets	295,026	113,442
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	214,290	31,436
Other Liabilities		
	214,290	31,436
Non Current Liabilities		
Employee Leave Entitlements	18,303	18,303
Total Liabilities	232,593	49,739
Net Assets	62,433	63,703

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2016

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Revenue from rendered services	372,160	246,109
Other revenues from ordinary activities	24,378	33,470
Total Revenue	396,538	279,579
Expenditure from ordinary activities		
Employment Expenses		
Salaries and Oncosts	234,529	199,690
Depreciation Expenses	5,571	9,582
Borrowing Costs		
Other expenses from ordinary activities		
Consulting and Projects	77,688	26,580
Administration and Operating Expenses	51,274	38,752
Vehicle Expenses	17,688	25,889
Professional Development	1,058	2,029
Total Expenses	397,808	302,522
Operating Surplus (Deficit) for the Year	-1,270	-22,943



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 Auditors Report



An Addition to
Your Business

27 Welsford Street
Shepparton Vic 3632
Ph. (03) 5833 3000 Fax. (03) 5831 2988
www.plus1group.com.au

NE TRACKS LOCAL LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT NETWORK INCORPORATED INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS

Scope

We have audited the accompanying special purpose financial report of NE Tracks Local Learning and Employment Network Inc. ("the Association"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2016 and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the statement by members of the committee.

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee of management of NE Tracks Local Learning and Employment Network Inc. is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accountant Interpretations) and the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic)*. This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report 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 entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Board, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion the financial report of NE Tracks Local Learning and Employment Network Inc. is in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic)*, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the association's financial position as at 31 December 2016 and of its performance and its cash flows for the year ended on that date; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic)*.

BEN SNOW CPA
PLUS 1 GROUP
SHEPPARTON

Date: 31st January 2017

+1 Accountants

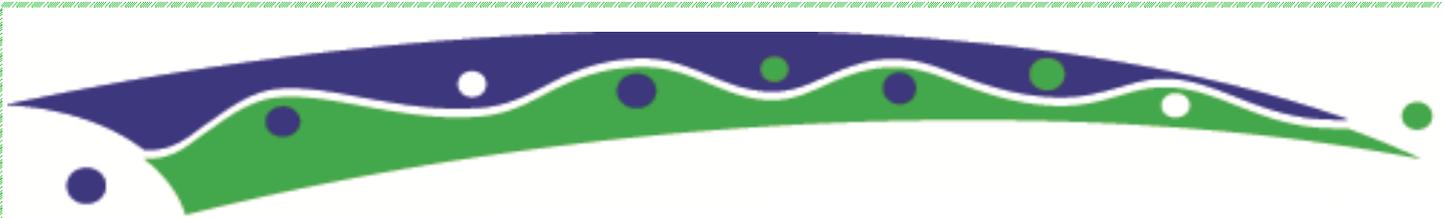
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P.O BOX 1376
SHEPPARTON VIC 3632
ABN 85 826 216 547



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ABN 11 408 695 672 AFSL 322211



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 2016.

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

Louise Pearce	<i>Chair / Public Officer</i>	Darren Moffitt
Margaret Attley	<i>Deputy Chair</i>	Barbara O'Brien
Denis O'Callaghan	<i>Treasurer</i>	Judy O'Loughlin
Joanne Ryan		Felicy Williams
Patricia Claridge		Albert Friejah
Adrian Farrer		Joanne Rock
Barbara Alexander		

Operating Result

The net financial result for the financial year was a loss of \$1,270.

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 2016 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 2016.

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:

1/2/2017