

## Time2Drive Learner Driver Mentor Program

41% of unemployed young Australians don't have a driver's licence. Many have no access to a registered vehicle and/or responsible family member to support them in gaining their provisional licence. National Joblink (NJL) Cairns is changing that - the Cairns Office is proud to launch NJL's Time2Drive Learner Driver Mentor Program. Since starting in March this year, we have acquired 2 brand new Toyota Yaris's, onboarded 4 volunteer driver mentors, all who have been given the training to provide safe and supportive lessons and started 6 participants into the program, with many more on the way. NJL are excited to provide accessible driving opportunities to people in the Cairns Community; who are finding it hard to complete 'on the road' driving hours. Local businesses have come on board to give our community a hand up, sponsors pledging assistance to up keep our new Toyota Yaris's looking and working smoothly for the next 4 years. NJL Time2Drive would like to acknowledge and say thank you to our amazing major sponsors; Inspired Signs, Jax Auto, Mark Dodge Motoring, and Time2Shine Car Detailing.

To find out more about Time2Drive, check us out on [www.time2drivecairns.com.au](http://www.time2drivecairns.com.au)

### June 2022

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#### Major Sponsors



#### Contributors



## Walk-thru Tasmanian Pickled Onions, Tas

NJL Devonport staff took 7 participants, across the Transition to Work & Parents Next contracts, to Tasmanian Pickled Onions (TPO) in Ulverstone. The Manager of TPO provided a walk-thru the factory and a thorough explanation about the operations, working environment and benefits to working at Tasmanian Pickled Onions. And yes, there was some tears from the onions. TPO had positions available due to commencing extra shift, as their current demand had grown from 600,000 jars to 1.1 million jars. We all enjoyed hot drinks in Windows on Westella following the walk thru. All participants expressed their interest in working at TPO. NJL continued to work with and support the participants to connect with and commence employment. TPO over the past 2 months have employed 1 from our TTW contract and 1 from our PN contract and they are beyond impressed with both employees.



## Games Fest – Graduation

You may remember reading about Games Fest – Digital Work is Real in the March issue of NJL's Newsletter. NJL partnered with local technology educational company Bitlink to deliver a 13-week Local Jobs Program Activity, designed to develop the transferable skills of participants by focusing on their passion for online games. Games Fest culminated on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May with a wonderful Celebration. After being presented with their Certificates, participants demonstrated their individual games to invited guests – including family, friends, Jobactive providers, Department of Employment Skills and Education representatives and employers. The success of Games Fest for our participants has been highlighted in several ways, including increased confidence, higher motivation levels and the development of clear study and employment pathways. There have been examples of participants undertaking work trials, interviews and potential internships. Furthermore, as a direct result of an organised Panel for employers to discuss their expectations and requirements, the Franchise Manager of Harvey Norman was so impressed with one of the participants, that they offered him a job. Thanks to everyone who contributed to ensuring that Games Fest 'made a difference' to those who participated.



## Tassie Supercars- Launceston



The Rob Fairs Foundation in conjunction with Optus and the crew from Walkinshaw Andretti United, gave participants from our Launceston Transition to Work program an opportunity to attend the V8 supercars at Symmons Plains Raceway. We had a tour of pit lane and the opportunity to stand on the starting grid and meet the race car drivers. Our participants thoroughly enjoyed the day, making friends, meeting high profile race car drivers, gaining an understanding of costs and worked involved. Participants were also lucky enough to having merchandise signed.

## GOOD NEWS STORIES

### Caleb – Darwin, NT

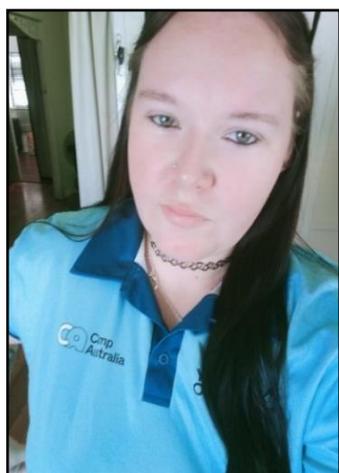
Caleb successfully completed a Block 1 and Block 2 within our Employability Skills Program (EST) over the last 6 months. Caleb was consistent in his attendance and gained the employment skills necessary to assist him in becoming more confident and motivated with finding employment. With support from his EST trainer, Caleb was able to update his resume and cover letter and start applying for local labour jobs. Caleb successfully secured an interview with Hay's recruiting and NJL supported with transport to and from the interview. Hay's recruiting has now employed Caleb and he started his first week of work at the beginning of June as a store person, working for a local event company. NJL continued to support Caleb by securing financial assistance from his Jobactive to purchase personal protective wear, a new phone, battery for his car, bus tickets, car inspection and registration renewal. Caleb has been in contact with NJL staff post his employment placement with gratitude for the assistance he has been provided to get him back into the workforce after 5 years of unemployment. NJL wishes Caleb the best of luck for his future.



### Nicola – Rockhampton, QLD

Nicola commenced with ParentsNext back in 2019. Nicola had been living at a friend's house with her 2 children and desperately wanted to find her own stable housing, however this had become increasingly difficult with her being on such a low income. NJL assisted Nicola to create a strengths-based resume and helped her apply for jobs, one of which was with Camp Australia. Shortly after applying, Nicola was excited to call her Mentor to advise she had been successful in gaining a phone interview and within two days of the interview she received the wonderful news that she got the job with Camp Australia. NJL assisted Nicola to obtain her Bluecard, supported her to complete her online induction and purchased work clothes. This has been such a meaningful outcome for Nicola, due to now having a stable income, with good money and child friendly hours, she has also been able to secure a rental properly, achieving her goal of providing a safe environment for her and her children and working in a job she loves.

Well done Nicola.



### Gabriella- Launceston, TAS

Gabriella has been a participant with Transition to Work for some time and was supported to gain her forklift/ white card to assist her gaining employment. TTW worked closely with Bell Bay Advanced Manufacturing Zone to assist her gaining an Internship with the George Town Council. Gabriella has been able to work in different areas of the council assisting with Parks and Road crews. The feedback from the Council has been fantastic and Gabriella has now successfully secured ongoing employment with the George Town Council through Keene Partners. Gabriella has since been featured representing George Town City Council for International Woman's Day, as an advocate for woman working in the labour industry, "I will continue to prove to the council and other woman that no job has a one-sided gender". NJL wished Gabriella continued success within her employment.



## MEET THE TEAM

### Brittany Cleaver – *Team Support Administrator, Hobart, TAS*

Hello, my name's Britt. I've worked at NJL for nearly a year. I began in administration/reception and am now branching into a more client-focused support mentor role. Here in the Moonah Office, I sit at the front desk and strive to assist the staff in taking the best possible care of their participants. I'm involved mainly with the ParentsNext program, but I am actively learning about other programs too. I grew up in lovely Howrah, near the beach, and at UTAS I studied a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Philosophy and Japanese. Before working with NJL, I was an Assistant Language Teacher in Omachi City, Japan. I lived in Omachi for five years, where I taught English to students from grade 1 up until grade 9. As such, I have a love for Japanese culture, especially manga, Japanese calligraphy, food, and karaoke. Having worked overseas and now working in social services, I love learning about people from all different cultures and walks of life. My hobbies outside of work include drawing, playing Dungeons & Dragons, and working on a fantasy novel.



### Bianca Scott – *PN Mentor, Launceston, TAS*

Hi I'm Bianca, I've been at NJL Launceston for 9 months now as a mentor in the ParentsNext program. I can say that I am absolutely loving my role and the challenges and achievements that have come with it. Being able to support parents into their next stage of life has been extremely fulfilling and I have enjoyed seeing our participants grow and succeed with their goals. I previously spent 14 years in commercial cooking/hospitality which I also enjoyed but decided a mid-life (crisis) career change was on the cards. Now that my children have grown up and stating to leave the home, I am able to find more time for myself. I am enjoying getting back out into nature to do photography, baking delicious cakes and trying not to kill my indoor plants.



### Liam Ogilvie-Mitchell – *Pre-Employment Mentor, Darwin, NT*

Hi, I'm Liam. I am born and raised in Darwin and love living in the top end. I am married with 3 Kids (2 Foster boys and a new 5 month old baby girl). I come from a Jobactive background, moving companies from Max Employment to NJL to have more of an opportunity to work closely with young adults helping them get their start in their careers. I originally started as an EST trainer in Feb 2021 but am now transitioning into a Driving Instructor role with the company. I really enjoy playing sports such as AFL and Cricket although it gets incredibly hot up here sometimes, I wonder why I put myself through it. I'm really looking forward to moving into this new area with company and excited to be able to grow it from the ground up, up here in Darwin.

