

The Tarkine Wilderness Lodge

National Joblink's Newest Investment

March 2021

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National Joblink are pleased to announce the purchase of the Tarkine Wilderness Lodge in Meunna, Tasmania. The Lodge allows National Joblink to explore even more opportunities to help grow and develop youth. National Joblink will be developing activities with a focus on participants in our current contracts, Transition to Work, Employability Skills Training, Parents Next and Career Transition Assistance but we have plans for the Lodge to be inclusive of the community.

The Lodge, constructed in 2003, is based on 100 acres nestled on the edge of the majestic wilderness named 'The Tarkine'. The Tarkine is the second largest tract of temperate rainforest in the world and is home to many varieties of natural vegetation and wildlife. This exceptional environment is conducive to serenity and activity.

National Joblink have plans to visit local community groups and schools to seek feedback about how best the Lodge can service the region. NJL want to share this unique experience and we have plans to develop further activities to assist with increasing confidence and self-esteem. Some of the planned activities are retreats for those in need, obstacle courses, orienteering and wellness activities. We also plan to teach youth how to grow food which can be delivered to those in need, as well as contacting local apiarists to teach honey farming and offer the use of the property for producing honey.



Face to Face Servicing - Career Transition Assistance

Our National Joblink's Career Transition Assistance (CTA) Team met to discuss and plan for the return of face-to-face servicing commencing on the 19th of April in Tasmania and 22nd March in the Northern Territory.

NJL are delivering this eight-week course throughout seven sites in Australia. The CTA course is specifically designed for mature aged participants for assistance with identifying and developing transferable skills and to work on resilience, motivation, and digital literacy. One of the key parts of the CTA program is to develop knowledge of the local labour market and to have workplace visits and guest speakers. Our team cannot wait to support participants with their journey in a face-to-face setting.



Helping Hands for the RSPCA – Darwin, NT

Darwin's participants have been busy helping support our local RSPCA furry friend establishment. The team assisted in many team driven tasks such as cleaning the catteries, hosing out the dog kennels, making dog treats, general cleaning and one our favourite activities - playing with the kittens, puppies, dogs, and cats. The Darwin team were given the responsibility of a 14-foot shipping container that was full of donated food and toys that had unfortunately been compromised by a rodent infestation.

The team worked through the rising heat of 32 degrees with regular water and icy poles breaks. Participants cleaned out the entire 14-foot shipping container to separate donated food which included salvaging plenty of food and disposing some of the out-of-date product. The team have now been inducted and can return to support the RSPCA with volunteer work whenever they would like to; these eager participants are already booked in and ready to go back and lend a hand within the next two weeks.



GOOD NEWS STORIES

Sophie – Launceston, TAS

Sophie commenced Transition to Work (TTW) with National Joblink in July 2020 without any prior work history. She had attended her appointments for 2 months before gaining her own employment with a dog grooming salon.

Sophie successfully held employment for approximately 6 months, TTW offered support with regular check-in phone calls. Unfortunately, her hours started to decline due to a lack of work. A TTW mentor then heard of an employment opportunity at another dog grooming salon, that was owned and operated by a previous participant of National Joblink's ParentsNext program. TTW contacted Sophie to see if she was interested in the opportunity. She was then supported by TTW in contacting the owner of the salon and is now the first member of staff they have ever employed. Sophie will be supported by Transition to Work with workwear and other grooming items if required. We wish her the best of luck in her new employment.



Jorjah – Rockhampton, QLD



Jorjah commenced into the Transition to Work program in Feb 2021. Her mentor identified that there was needed assistance within literacy and numeracy, so she was referred to the SEE program. NJL assisted with a bus card, helping her get to and from training and appointments as she is living out of town. After several discussions with Jorjah outlining the different opportunities and career pathways available, she wanted to find some casual or parttime work while undertaking the SEE program. Assistance in knowing how to market her skills to employers was given and Jorjah was eager to undertake NJL's Job readiness training. National Joblink assisted in developing a resume, cold calling skills and interview techniques. Through practising these skills, she has developed confidence and started contacting employers. Jorjah has now secured employment with "Look Who's Cooking Fish and Chip Shop" while also undertaking the SEE program. The future is bright and with support from her employer, she is now enthusiastic to undertake a Cert III in Hospitality.

Noah – Berserker, QLD

When Noah first commenced into the Transition to Work program in 2020, he was unsure about his career pathway, however he expressed interest in the labour industry. With COVID restrictions, limited work opportunities and him having no prior experience in this industry, our TTW Mentor saw this as a great opportunity to build Noah's job readiness skills and booked him in for online training. He then attended weekly sessions on how to properly build a resume, write cover letters, approach employers, and complete applications. In January, our TTW Mentor shared a job opportunities flyer with Job's Qld which Noah applied for and successfully obtained employment, all while being proactive in taking on the valuable advice from his Mentor to start planning early for future job opportunities. Well done Noah.



MEET THE TEAM

Jo Barber – *Team Admin Assistant & Driving Instructor - Gladstone, QLD*

Hi, my name is Jo and I have been with the Gladstone NJL team since October 2019 as the Team Administration Assistant. I have recently expanded my role and completed a Cert IV in Car Driving Instruction and am now launching into the exciting and sometimes scary role of teaching our young people how to drive. The program in Gladstone kicked off this week and I have now done three driving lessons, I am loving it. What a fantastic program to assist our participants to gain driving experience I am so lucky to work with a fantastic crew in the Gladstone office, which makes coming to work a pleasure. In my past working life, I have worked with young people in Job Services and Job Active as both a consultant and a workforce trainer. I also worked at the Gladstone PCYC as the Get Set for Work Co-ordinator, managing two programs both local and outreach. In my life away from NJL, I am a mother of four daughters and have one granddaughter. Only one has flown the nest, so with three girls and a baby at home, life is crazy busy, but I love it.



Kristine Taylor – *Parents Next Consultant, Launceston, TAS*

Hi, I am Kristine Taylor and I started at National Joblink in August 2019 where I started as a Parents next and Transition to Work mentor before adding to my role the teaching of Career Transition Assistance. I am grateful to all my participants who allow me to travel on their journey with them and love to see them succeed and reach their career or life goals. Prior to starting work with NJL I had recently returned from living in the UK for 7 years where I was working in residential care for children with challenging behavior and progressed to me working for West Midlands Police.

My best friend is Amelia a German shepherd who in my spare time I am training to be a drug detection dog. I also assist my husband with the other 6 German shepherds we have and are training to be explosive detection dogs with one recently going to the mainland and working at a large international event. While overseas I was lucky enough to spend some time training in various dog sports and attending some super seminars before bringing my dogs back to Australia with us. In addition to my dogs, I also work some weekends in event security and have had some very interesting experiences and met some incredible people.

Lisa Malnar – *Youth Employment Mentor – Darwin, NT*

Lisa here from the Darwin office. I have been with NJL since August 2020 and am an EST Mentor. Before joining the NJL team I was an independent travel agent which was obviously affected by Covid. I have also been a business consultant, specialising in helping small business owners revamp their sales and delivery approach as well as a case worker for child welfare.

I am originally from Oregon in the United States, moving to Australia almost 9 years ago. In 2015 I relocated from Sydney to Darwin and love the relaxed tropical lifestyle. When I am not working, I love to travel, read, and volunteer in my community. On the weekend you can usually find me enjoying brunch at a café supporting a local business.

