

# Wurreker Newsletter

Issue No.3 June 2005

*Deon Davis*  
TAFE Manager

The VAEAI TAFE unit has to date been very busy with compiling the draft Wurreker Regional Training Plans from across the State. The VAEAI Wurreker Brokers have been busily holding both their local and regional forums in their respective areas, as well as tending to their day to day activities. Information gathered from these forums inform training priorities in your local area. We are aiming to have the 2006 State Training Plan published by the end of July 2005.

The TAFE unit continues to look at ways and methods on making inroads into the VET sector, our focus will continue to be, how we establish stronger pathways for Koorie students in Victoria. This year we will be focusing strongly on interacting more effectively with various industry groups, the purpose for this is to establish partnerships with these groups and to provide pathways to employment for Koorie people in Victoria.

We are also planning on holding Regional industry forums later in the year, which we believe will be a great yardstick to interact more effectively with industry groups. The Brokers have been exceptional in the planning for these forums, and will update you further when these forums occur.

The VAEAI Wurreker Awards will be held once again this year, last year was the first time we held the Awards which proved to be such a great success. The event has been scheduled for Friday 26th August 2005 at the Aborigines Advancement League. Attached in this newsletter is the information for nomination along with the nomination form for 2005.

On another note I would also like to take the opportunity to congratulate Sandra Stewart, VAEAI Wurreker Broker for completing her Diploma of Business & International Trade.

All in all the first quarter has been a great kick start to 2005. Please do not hesitate in contacting any of the staff at the TAFE unit if you ever require any assistance.

## VQA Research & Koorie experiences of qualifications pathways in VET: Obstacles or opportunities?

This project, which was conducted through Melbourne University, aims to track and document the pathways of Koorie students through VET; their experiences of pathways planning and course advice services, access to credit transfer and RPL; and the extent to which the VET qualifications system has supported the achievement of their learning goals to date.

An important part of the project was the employment and training of seven Koorie research assistants to conduct the interviews with Koorie students.

The report has been finalised and is currently in the approval process, through the project working group. Once this has been finalised it will then be printed and available for distribution.

## VAEAI TAFE STAFF

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I would like to firstly congratulate Suraya Bin Talib, VAEAI Wurreker Broker for Central Highlands Wimmera and her husband Jamie Lowe on the birth of their daughter, Jaidah Lowe. Suraya is currently on leave and will be returning at the end of June 2004. At present we have Sheree Lowe filling in for Suraya whilst she is on leave. I would like to thank Sheree for filling in on such a busy period.

Wanda Wellington is also currently on leave and will be returning in July 2005. I would like to welcome and thank Luke Briggs for filling the reception position until Wanda returns and hope that he enjoys his time at the Namalaata office.

Dannielle Hamilton has recently resigned from VAEAI, Danni has been with VAEAI for over 10 years. I would like to thank Danni for her valuable input and support to the VAEAI TAFE unit during her time here. As most of us know Danni has resigned due to her pregnancy, and its no normal pregnancy either, she will be giving birth in October to twins. On behalf of the VAEAI Committee of Management and staff I would like to wish both Danni and her partner all the best in the future.



[neville@vicnet.net.au](mailto:neville@vicnet.net.au)

Neville Atkinson

Adult, Community and Further Education (ACFE) provides lifelong learning opportunities for Victorian adults, contributing to their social, economic, and cultural development as individuals and members of the Victorian community.

ACFE program areas include:

- Adult Literacy and Basic Education (ALBE) - literacy, numeracy, and basic education courses (up to Year 10 equivalent) for learners ranging from those who are just beginning their return to education to those seeking entry to other forms of education and training
- the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) for learners through full-time or part-time study
- general preparatory programs and bridging programs including return to study and work preparation programs
- English as a Second Language (ESL) courses aimed at improving the English language skills of Language Background Other than English (LBOE) learners
- vocational education programs are offered through ACE organisations
- general adult education programs such as arts, crafts, health, history, languages

The early stages of 2005 have been a watershed period in the Adult Community Education (ACE) sector regarding the provision of education and training pathways for Koorie learners.

On the back of the Ministerial Statement 'Future Directions for Adult Community Education in Victoria' launched in September 2004, which identifies Koorie learners as a target group in the improvement of learning outcomes and the Adult, Community & Further Education (ACFE) Boards commission of projects undertaken by the VAEAI and Songlines Music Aboriginal Corporation, the ACFE Division DE&T has further committed to improving Koorie participation in ACE through the implementation of the Wurreker Strategy within the ACE sector.

The initial stage of the implementation of the Wurreker Strategy within the ACE sector has seen the development of ACFE Wurreker plans by each of the 9 ACFE regions.

This process has been facilitated by consultations between VAEAI and the ACFE Division. The provision of a Wurreker Strategy workshop provided by VAEAI, in partnership with the ACFE Division for ACFE Regional Council staff as well as one on one consultation conducted with all ACFE Regional Offices.

The implementation of the Wurreker Strategy in ACE is expected at facilitating the development of stronger partnerships between local Koorie communities and the ACE sector and in doing so improving the numbers of Koories participating in Adult Community Education.

Developments to date have included the provision of presentations to ACFE Regional Council meetings and ACE provider forums on the Wurreker Strategy and the facilitation of a forum held in Gippsland for LAECGs and ACFE Regional Council members, mentioned in the Central and East Gippsland Wurreker reports. Similar forums and further consultations are planned for throughout the year.

If you would like any information on what Adult Community Education may have to offer or would like to contact your ACFE Regional Council contact:

Neville Atkinson  
VAEAI ACFE Project Officer  
Phone: (03) 9486 1599  
Fax: (03) 9486 1577  
Mobile: 0418 142 418  
Email: [neville@vicnet.net.au](mailto:neville@vicnet.net.au)

# Broker Updates

## Wayne Clarke Melbourne Metropolitan

From January – April 2005 the Melbourne Metropolitan Region has been actively involved in community consultations. This time of year great emphasizes are placed on Wurreker Local/Regional Forums and the need to collate information for the development of the Koorie Training Plan 2006. The consultation, planning and implementation of these forums require a great amount of time and flexibility for our community members.

Forums were held at Brunswick Power Sports Club for community members in the Northern and Northwest Suburbs, at Oonah Learning Centre Healesville for community members in the Outer East Suburbs and at Dandenong Sports Club for Community members from Dandenong and the Mornington Peninsula.

The forums were well attended by representatives from LAECGs, Community Organisations, CDEP, TAFE Institutes, Training Providers and Job Network Providers. The main aim of the forums was to collect data and information for the development of the 2005 Training Plan. In addition, the forums also gave us a clear insight to determine what the training priorities were in the local area, in particular, where employment opportunities were the greatest and training pathways could be established to complement potential employment.

The Shire of Whitehorse are sponsoring an Indigenous Education and Employment Expo, the event will be highlighted during Reconciliation Week, Wednesday June 1st 2005.

An expected 70 Representatives from Industry and Employer Groups will be in attendance with presentations from key Indigenous people and Organisations. The VAEAI Wurreker Unit have been invited to deliver a presentation on the Wurreker Strategy.

The event is free with Indigenous food and light refreshments provided. For more information and Bookings please contact: [Darielle Crawford](mailto:Darielle.Crawford@whitehorse.vic.gov.au) on 9262-5616 or [Email:darielle.crawford@whitehorse.vic.gov.au](mailto:darielle.crawford@whitehorse.vic.gov.au)

Victoria University's Koorie Employment Initiative. Victoria University has targeted 45 employment positions across all campuses. The newly created positions will be across all levels of the University which include employment in Management, Administration and Lecturing.

The Strategy is an initiative between the Victoria University and the Koorie Community. Victoria University Employment Strategy will be supported by providing \$500,000 in funding to ensure the Strategy is a success.

Membership of the VUT Steering Committee:

- Michele Grossman, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Arts, Department of Communication, Language and Cultural Studies (NTEU)
- Dr Chris Hallinan, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Human Development, School of Human Movement, Recreation and Performance (NTEU)
- Chris Heazlewood, Manager, Workplace Policy and Initiatives
- Susan Inglis, Inglis Consulting (from April 2003)
- Karen Jackson, Coordinator, Indigenous Services, Equity and Social Justice
- Alex Radywonik, Assistant Executive Officer, TAFE Division of Administrative Services (to September 2002)
- Professor Terry Seedsman, Deputy Dean, Faculty of Human Development, Alma Unit for Research on Ageing
- Sue Heyes, Administrator, Human Resource Development (Support)

Holmesglen TAFE has entered into a new partnership with Toor-rong CDEP. Toor-rong CDEP is based at Healesville and has sites at Dandenong and Hastings. Holmesglen TAFE has developed flexible programs that are delivered at the CDEP sites. The programs include Woodwork & Furniture Making, Automotives, Pottery and Landscape Gardening. The new partnership arrangements have provided Toor-rong CDEP with the opportunity to further develop and enhance their Business and Enterprise aspirations.

Lisa Anderson, the newly appointed Manager of Toor-rong CDEP and Jarrod Flanagan (Holmesglen TAFE) have completed extensive consultations in regards to the needs and aspirations of the Toor-rong CDEP. Lisa stated that the initiative and innovation provided by Holmesglen TAFE has given the local Koorie Communities the opportunity to complete their studies and will provide the opportunity to enter into meaningful employment.

For more information contact Lisa or Jarrod on the following numbers:

Lisa Anderson Toor-rong CDEP:

Healesville	59 625333
Dandenong	9791 2137
Hastings	59 793944

Jarrod Flanagan Holmesglen TAFE:

Chadstone	9564-1958
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Chisholm TAFE have recently reformed the Koorie Advisory Committee. The Committee is headed up by Maria Peters and Anne Cosentino. The Advisory Committee has pledged a firm commitment in engaging the LAECG with all of it's business.

The Koorie Unit has been relocated to Building 0 while plans have been developed to construct a new Koorie Learning Centre. A new approach to learning methods will see the introduction of Bunjil-Arang (Come back and Learn) which will focus on course design that will support individual needs and provide the opportunity for 1-on-1 learning when required.

The Frankston Campus Koorie Unit has also been relocated to a more suitable double-sized classroom/common room where the local students have embraced the extra space available. The Unit also welcomes Patrice Mahoney as the Koorie Liaison Officer and part-time teacher. Both Campuses are witnessing a growth in the number of students and attendances are greatly improving.

To be on the mailing list for Up-coming and Cultural Events at Chisholm TAFE please send your details to [arbup.peters@chisholm.vic.edu.au](mailto:arbup.peters@chisholm.vic.edu.au)

Other TAFE news include; the engagement of new Koorie Liaison Officers at RMIT, Swinburne, Kangan and Chisholm Institutes. We would like to welcome Eric Clarke (RMIT, Carlton Campus), Kelly Groves (RMIT, Bundoora Campus), Vicky Armstrong (Swinburne, Prahran Campus), Jasanne Powell (Kangan, Broadmeadows Campus) last, but not least Patrice Mahoney (Chisholm, Frankston Campus).

## TAFE Koorie Liaison Officers Contact Details

### Chisholm TAFE:

Dandenong	KLO Ashleigh Peters	9212-5304
Frankston	KLO Patrice Mahoney	9238-8446

### ILFR:

Burnley Campus	KLO Jon Belling	9250-6809
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### Kangan TAFE:

Broadmeadows	Manager Terry Kildea	9279-2359
	KLO Jasanne Powell	9279-2359

### NMIT:

Preston	Managers	
	Wanda Braybrook	9269-1339
	Kelly Faldon	9269-1339
	KLO Stephen Van Nus	9269-1339

### RMIT:

Carlton	Manager Stuart McFarlane	9925-4885
	KLO Eric Clarke	9925-4885
Bundoora	KLO Kelly Groves	9925-7501

### Swinburne TAFE:

Prahran	KLO Vicky Armstrong	9214-6905
Lilydale	Pathways Shane Charles	9215-7094
Healesville	KLO Anne Jenkins	59 62-3039

### VUT:

St Albans	KLO Rebecca Gerrett	9365-2228
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### William Angliss:

Melbourne	KLO Josie Atkinson	9606-2675
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## Sheree Iowe

### Central Highlands Wimmera Region

The Central Highlands Wimmera Wurreker Regional Committee is in the process of drafting the regions training priorities for 2006. Once the Committee have endorsed the draft plan it will then be forwarded to the VAEAI TAFE Unit to inform the VAEAI State Training Plan 2006.

There were two local parents forums organised for Horsham and Ballarat. The main driver in these forums was Suraya Bin Talib (Central Highlands Wurreker Broker). It had been identified by local community that it would be a great idea for parents to have the opportunity to learn and be informed of all the different issues and options related to education. There were guest speakers from all education levels from the Primary KE to University of Ballarat TAFE And Higher Education workers; there were also presentation by Centrelink, the LLEN and LAECG members. The day was organised to be informative to parents and to highlight the different options within education and for parents or guardians to put a face to the name of their education workers and start to form a working relationship in an informal neutral setting other than school. The feedback from the forum highlight that parents appreciated the options to find more about education and to be able to be actively involved within their children's education. It is hoped that this event will be an event that occurs regularly.

The University of Ballarat in partnership with the Ballarat LAECG and Horsham LAECG have developed a transition program for youth 15 and above youth within our region. The program is in it second year, with last years program being very successful. The concept and major objective of the transition program is to engage with students and to present them with information to assist them in making informed decision about their future.

There are a number of sessions ran through out the year which students attend. These three forums target and give youth a number of options and skill development. For example, establishing goals, preparing a resume, workplace tours, tours of the education and training providers within the region. The final forum is a 3 night residential stay. This is to strengthen links that have already be made through out the year, a reward for participants commitment throughout the year, a number of team building exercises and tours of industry based workplaces and a fairly extensive cultural program throughout the four forums.

It is hoped that by presenting these options to young people that by the end of the program people they will be able to make informed decisions about their future and have made networks with workers in various areas that will be able to support and assist them in achieving their goals and aspirations.

## *Kathy Travis* *South West Region*

2004 was a very successful and rewarding year for Wurreker and the local Koorie communities. Many stakeholders have been developed and this just continually grows day by day. More and more people tell someone else within their networks about Wurreker. Many organizations are starting to ensure that part of their core business relates to working with the local Koorie communities as a result of Wurreker.

This year a number of regional forums will be conducted. However rather than hold 1 major one with all invited key stakeholders, I will be running them in small groups. (Eg: Employers, Job Network Providers inc. NACS etc, ACFE providers etc)

The South West TAFE have been open to many suggestions. They have been very upfront in relation to the sharing of information. Their Wurreker Implementation Plan was worked on late last year and completed and endorsed by the TAFE Advisory Committee. They have put in place measures to evaluate and monitor the progress of the implementation of their plan from a communities perspective.

A submission was prepared and submitted to ANTA for development of the Wathaurong Education Centre in North Geelong. The current building used as an Education Centre has been refurbished and enhanced as the Wathaurong Education Centre. The Centre has been established as a stepping stone to study at the Gordon Institute of TAFE and where appropriate, delivery will be shared between the Wathaurong Education Centre in North Geelong and the Koorie Education Unit at the Fenwick Street campus of the Institute.

There are a number of possible options regarding training to be offered. It is proposed that students can select units as required or complete a whole course. Up to 10,000 student contact hours will be committed by the Gordon Institute of TAFE each year.

The position of Koorie Liaison Officer was advertised, interviewed and selected. The position was being filled in the interim and the person who was filling in was successful in gaining the position full-time. The Institute have also just put on a part time person who will work directly with and for the Education Centre. (No courses have commences as yet.

The LLEN partnership (Smart Geelong Region LLEN) a small planning group to work with the local Koorie community to implement the Koorie Partnership Project has been developed and established.. The Project involves 4 key activities:

- a Data project to gather data on participation and destinations of Koorie youth from pre-school through school, TAFE, ACE and employment;
- Regional planning sessions with all local agencies having core business to support Koorie youth;
- a Koorie After 5 event to introduce Geelong agencies to the new Wathaurong Education Centre and

Implementing Information sessions for Koorie parents and kids on vocational pathways and opportunities. (as was delivered in 2004)

The Wathaurong Education centre has a number of Koorie education staff based within it:

- VAEAI Wurreker Broker
- TAFE Koorie Liaison Officer
- Koorie Education Development Officer
- 3 Koorie Educators
- Koorie Pre-school assistant

The education centre has 13 brand new computers all networked up the Internet, new furniture, heating, carpet and painted walls. It is a base in which all workers from early childhood to Higher Ed can now network more effectively. In my role as the Broker I have been able to assist the LAECG to introduce what is known as the KEWT (Koorie Educations Workers Team) meetings – these are informal and used to assist in sharing ideas and transferring information across the sectors.



*Wurreker Regional Committee Members hard at work*



*Vocational Information Session 2004:  
Inc. Home School Liaison Officer, KEDO, Quiksilver,  
Geelong Regional Vocation Education Council and  
Department of Education*



*Wurreker Local Forum: Geelong*



*Wathaurong Education Centre*

## **Barry Fary** *Loddon Campaspe Region*

The Loddon Campaspe Wurreker Regional Committee has been busily involved in holding Wurreker stakeholder forums to discuss and set training priorities for the Region. These forums were well attended in both Bendigo and Echuca, information from these forums as well as other stakeholder consultations have informed the draft Loddon Campaspe Wurreker Regional Training Plan for 2006.

The Justice Job Fair was held in Bendigo last month and was well attended by over 80 youths seeking training and employment opportunities. Various workshops were held which included Universities, TAFEs, Job Networks, Employer groups and Government Departments. The Justice Job Fair day in Bendigo was both successful and informative.

A Koorie student from the Bendigo Regional Institute of TAFE has won a poster competition held by the Bendigo Community Health Gamblers Help and Centrelink, an initiative funded by the State government Community Support Fund. The aim of the poster competition is to encourage problem gamblers in Indigenous communities to seek help. On behalf of the Loddon Campaspe Wurreker Regional Committee I would like to congratulate Tina Maloney, Tina is currently participating in the Indigenous Welfare course, her painting reflects Indigenous communities coming together to deal with problems caused by excessive gambling.

Students participating in the Art and Design course at Echuca TAFE Koorie Unit are holding an Art Exhibition during NAIDOC week 3rd – 10th July 2005. The Exhibition is being held at Kickham's Mill Restaurant which is situated at Echuca TAFE, for further information please contact Vicki Walker on 0354 83 1340.

The Bendigo TAFE Koorie Unit will be unveiling a collection of wall photo's during NAIDOC week. The photo collection is in recognition of past students who have participated in courses at the Koorie Unit, the aim of the collection is to inspire and encourage students.

If you are interesting in participating in a course at either Bendigo or Echuca TAFE then please contact the TAFE Koorie Unit's, details of courses that are currently on offer at the Koorie Units are below:

**Bendigo TAFE Koorie Unit**  
Certificate 2 in General Education  
Certificate 4 in Indigenous Welfare Studies

Ms Leanne Fary  
Koorie Liaison Officer  
0354 34 1462  
lfary@britafe.vic.edu.au

**Echuca TAFE Koorie Unit**  
Certificate 3 & 4 in Art & Design  
Diploma of Visual with small business component

Ms Vicki Walker  
Koorie Liaison Officer  
Ph: 0354 83 1340  
vwalker@britafe.vic.edu.au

Andrea Philipp is the Area Consultative Employment Officer for the Loddon Campaspe Region. Andrea's role is to assist Koorie people in seeking employment in their respective towns. If you are interested in seeking employment and need assistants in the following area's:

- Compiling your Resume
- Drafting your Job Application
- Important interview techniques

Please contact Andrea on 0354 42 8773 or email at ieocvacc@bendigo.net.au.

In closing I would like to congratulate Bendigo's Koorie Dancers, the Bunjil Brave Hearts led by a very talented dance instructor Ms Muthama Sinnappan. Bendigo hosted the Commonwealth Youth Games, the Bunjil Brave Hearts Koorie Dancers performed as part of the opening ceremony. An overwhelming applause was received by a crowd of over 10,000 people, their performance was inspirational.



**Sandra Stewart**  
*Murray Valley Region*

The Murray Valley Wurreker Regional Committee is committed to the consultation process for the development of the Murray Valley 2006 Training Plan. Numerous workshops, face-to-face meetings and the committee members own time are going in to ensuring the Plan has as broad a consultation process as possible to give community members ownership of their training requirements for the next 12 months.

An important part of the consultation process is the Wurreker Community Forums. To date two successful Community Forums have been held in the Region. The forums drew together Agency Reps, Koorie Organisations and local Koorie community members to share their knowledge and to form networks to ensure the best possible outcomes for their Clients.



*Participants attending the Mildura Wurreker Community Forum run as part of the Consultation Process for the Murray Valley 2006 Training Plan.*



*Swan Hill Forum participants enjoy a well earned lunch break.*



*Robinvale Community Forum.*



**TAFE NEWS:**

An Indigenous theme was adopted for the Sunraysia Institute of TAFE Annual Awards night held in Mildura in March.

The painted masks featured on the front of the program were a result of collaboration between the Certificate III in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art and Design (ATSIAD), and the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) Koorie Performing Arts students. The masks were created for the Park for Play Project. VCAL teacher, Gary Jones photographed the completed masks. This team effort is a great example of how students can work together on a project that will provide long term benefits to the local community. The masks were also featured on the data show which featured throughout the presentations.

Key Note Speaker was James Atkinson, Office of Training & Tertiary Education Program Manager, Koorie Education and Wurreker Broker Sandra Stewart gave the Student Testimonial. Sandra recently completed the 'Diploma of Business – International Trade'.



*Sandra Stewart, James Atkinson & Sunraysia Institute of TAFE Council Chair, Wendy Thompson*

***Koorie Awardees on the night were:***

Jane Forrester  
Certificate IV in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art and Design  
Dick Anderson Art Supplies Achievement Award

And

Daniel Smith  
Certificate in Learning Pathways for Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples  
Mildura Aboriginal Health Service Achievement Award

## **Alice Hughes** *Central Gippsland Region*

The Central Gippsland Wurreker Regional Committee has increased its numbers since last year with more stakeholders attending and contributing. There has been one minor change this year though, which was the change over of the Morwell LAECG.

Vera Briggs has recently resigned from her position as Chairperson of the Morwell LAECG. Steven Walsh has now taken the position of LAECG Chairperson.

Vera has been an active member of the LAECG since 1981 and has represented the Morwell community on the VAEAI Committee of Management for a number of years. Vera continues to be a member of the Morwell LAECG and is still active in attending the Wurreker Regional Committee meetings, acting as a mentor to Steven as he takes over the Role of LAECG Chair.

On behalf of the Central Gippsland Wurreker Regional Committee I would like to thank and pay recognition to Vera for her valuable support and wealth of knowledge and wisdom. Vera has been of great help to the Central Gippsland Wurreker Regional Committee, and has been a great support to me since my commencement in the role of Wurreker Broker. Vera has maintained her position on the VAEAI Committee of Management as the VAEAI Schools Secondary Specialist Representative.

To date a number of 2 Wurreker Regional Committee Meetings have been held, members of the committee are as follows:

- Local Aboriginal Education Consultative Groups
- TAFE Directorate
- TAFE Koorie Unit
- Local Learning Employment Networks
- Adult Community & Further Education
- Centerlink

The meetings alternate between venues across the region to ensure that at least once a year each LAECG hosts the meeting.

The Wurreker Regional Committee is currently focusing on gathering information to develop the Central Gippsland Wurreker Regional Training priorities for 2006. So far there has been two local forums conducted and we are in the process of organizing the regional key stakeholder forum.

The local forum held in Drouin was included as part of their Share the Knowledge Education and Training Fair. The Morwell LAECG and myself set up a table promoting Wurreker and also asking questions to gather data for the Regional Training Plan. The Forum was well attended with over 100 participants.

The TAFE Council recently advertised for a member of the Koorie community to apply for the vacant position on the TAFE Council Committee. On behalf of the Wurreker Regional Committee I would like to congratulate Terrylene Marks, Chairperson of the Drouin LAECG on being the successful applicant. The Wurreker Regional Committee have expressed their full support to Terrylene and see this as a big positive, leading to greater outcomes for Koories through the TAFE system.

There has been progress on developing a traineeship in the senior administration area of the Morwell TAFE campus which will be open to Koorie people only. The TAFE have been working with the Latrobe City's Pre-employment program and have advertised that the training will be conducted through TAFE for a period of 5 weeks, training commenced at the end of April.

The Wurreker Regional Committee have been working closely with ACFE (Adult Community & Further Education) Council in further developing strategies to increase Koorie participation rates within the ACE Sector. A meeting was held in Sale with members across the whole Gippsland region, LAECG's, ACFE Regional Councilors and Koorie Education Development Officers to discuss the future training priorities that could be delivered to Koorie Communities through the ACE Sector. The meeting proved to be very successful and productive with all parties being able to highlight community issues in regards to enrolling in the ACE sector, as well as partnerships being further developed amongst LAECG's and ACFE Regional Councils, with the aim of moving forward to create more education & training opportunities for Koories across Gippsland.



## **Ivy Yarram** **East Gippsland Region**

The passed few months in East Gippsland have been really busy with the running of the Justice Job fairs, implementation of the TAFE Koorie Unit Training plan for 2005, development of partnerships within the ACE sector and Wurreker local and regional forums

Wurreker local forums were held in Sale, Bairnsdale, Lake Tyers Aboriginal Trust, Lakes Entrance and Orbost. These forums were well represented by community members, LAECG's, CDEP participants and TAFE. These local forums were held to inform local communities of what's happening in their region and to obtain training priorities for the 2006 East Gippsland Wurreker Regional Training Plan.

A regional key stakeholder forum was held at the Bairnsdale Aboriginal Elders Hostel. The forum was well attended by representatives from the community, LAECG's, TAFE, ACFE, CDEP, Job Network and various Industry groups. The forum was successful in that it provided important information and developed strategies to improve the delivery of training and provide pathways to employment for local communities. Regional keystoneholder forums ensure that training compliment's the future and potential industry growth.

Congratulations to Lynette Bishop, who received the award for Koorie Student of the year (Business) 2004 at the Gippsland Group Training East Gippsland Institute of TAFE Awards presentation night in April 2005. Lynette studied Certificate I in business in 2004 and has continued her studies in 2005 in Certificate II in Business Administration.

A VCAL program is currently being conducted at Lake Tyers Aboriginal Trust with 15 -20 participants. The VCAL program gives the participants an alternative VCE qualification and also prepares them for the workforce in their preferred industry. Congratulations to the VCAL students from Lake Tyers Aboriginal Trust who have successfully completed the following certificate courses:

- Responsible Service Gaming
- Responsible Service Alcohol
- Safe Food Handling

This is indeed a wonderful accomplishment for the participants of the above courses, the TAFE Koorie Unit and the instructor Jan Watt.

The East Gippsland Institute of TAFE needs to be commended on it's commitment to deliver the Community training priorities that were included in the 2005 VAEAI State Training Plan. This was a result of consultations held with LAECG Chairpersons in the region, Daphne Yarram Sale, Dot Moffatt Bairnsdale, Sussan Martin Lakes Entrance and David Hewitt Orbost, the TAFE CEO Angela Hutson, Associate Director Catherine Briggs, Manager of the TAFE Koorie Unit Marg Curran and the KLO at the TAFE Koorie Unit Jamie Williamson.

I look forward to being a part of of the positive outcomes in the future with the continued commitment from those mentioned which can only lead to positive opportunities and future employment that will benefit the region as a whole.

A regional forum was held with fellow VAEAI Wurreker Broker from Central Gippsland Alice Hughes, LAECG Chairpersons across the whole Gippsland region, and Directors of the ACFE Regional Council held at Ramahyuck District Aboriginal Co-op. The purpose of the forum was to further develop partnerships and strategies between the Gippsland local Koorie Communities and the ACE sector. The meeting was successful with the aim of developing further partnership's from ACFE and the Koorie community to develop ways in which ACFE providers can be promoted within local Koorie communities.

Are you an Indigenous person interested in undertaking a pre-apprenticeship course in the East Gippsland region? Latrobe City Council is now facilitating traineeship programs to organizations in East Gippsland. Indigenous people are sought to undertake a pre-apprenticeship program for a period of seven weeks commencing early July. From the pre-apprenticeship training, a small number of Indigenous people will be selected to undertake administration and retail traineeships within various organizations in the Bairnsdale and Lakes Entrance areas. If you are interested in finding employment, a registered job seeker, have a desire to succeed and can commence training in July, this is the program for you!

All Enquires can be directed to Joanne Brunt on:  
1300 367 700

In closing I would like to congratulate both Sussan Martin and Dot Moffatt on their employment as Koorie Education Development Officer's (KEDO'S) in the East Gippsland region, Sussan is the KEDO for the Lakes Entrance through to Orbost area and Dot Moffatt is the KEDO for the Bairnsdale through to Sale area. Both have been involved in Koorie education for many years and I look forward to working closely with you both in the very near future.

## **Robert Britten** *Goulburn Valley Region*

The Goulburn Valley region had a very successful year for 2004 with 345 students enrolling in courses ranging from Certificate 1 to a Diploma at Goulburn Ovens TAFE with a module completion rate of 68.79% and Wodonga TAFE at 53.94%. This has prompted the Wurreker Regional Committee to form partnerships with job networks, community organizations and training providers to develop a strategy that meets the needs of Koorie students and maximize the opportunity for Koories to complete career orientated courses with long term sustainable employment.

### **Registered Training Organisations**

Course design and delivery will be in response to the input and demand from the Koorie community through the LAECG and Wurreker Regional Committee which acts as an advisory body to the institutes. Courses offered through the Koorie Education Units will be mostly career orientated such as Health, Business Management, Welfare, Hospitality, Building Industry, Manufacturing, Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning, Transport and cultural programs for students wishing to study in that area in which courses can be delivered on or off campus.

Community liaison and consultation arrangements have evolved over the past three years with introduction of the Wurreker strategy and TAFE's adapting to changes in series of influencing factors including TAFE restructuring, emergence of the Koorie Community and employer organisations and leadership of key stakeholders.

The process has been successful, with partnerships developed between the institutes and key stakeholders, effective communication between training organisations, LAECG and the Wurreker Regional Committee

### **Community Forums**

Regional forums were held with the focus being on community training needs for Koorie community organisations and the general Koorie population with four key note speakers from the TAFE, ACE provider, ASHE program and the Wurreker broker.

ASHE spoke on serving the needs of all people in the community, not only those with talent in sport — sport will provide the framework for the programs, but sporting careers are not the principal goal. The curriculum will be cross-sectoral, focussed on individual needs through personal needs analyses, the identification of personal goals, and direct links to employment and other education opportunities.

The Koorie liaison officer for TAFE spoke on training that was delivered in 2004 and the training that is being offered through the Koorie Education Unit's for 2005 are:

- Cert II in Caring for Indigenous Material Culture
- Cert II in Business
- Cert II in Transport and Distribution
- Cert II in Hospitality
- Cert II in First Aid
- Cert II in Furnishings
- Cert IV in Assessment and Workplace Training
- Cert IV in Health (Nursing)
- Cert IV in Business Management
- Cert II & III in Sport and Recreation
- Cert I & II in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Cultural Arts
- Cert IV in Indigenous Community management



## Workshops

Community forum workshop participants were mainly focused on engaging youth participation with TAFE and ACE providers in which, TAFE should be forming partnerships with ACE providers to develop bridging programs for Koorie youth, to give them a clear pathway that they choose to follow whether it be re-engaging back into study or a career orientated course.

Training priorities from the forum workshops consisted of;

- Cultural Awareness
- Pre Apprenticeships and Trades
- Transport & Distribution
- Literacy & Numeracy
- Health & Community Services
- Koorie Culture, Recreation & Service Industries
- Pre Employment Skills
- Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning
- Industry Licenses
- Horticulture & Agriculture (Land Mgt.)
- Business, Leadership & Management

## Yenbena Indigenous Training Centre

Yenbena Indigenous Training Centre is situated in the township of Barmah on the Murray River and adjacent to the worlds largest Red Gum Forrest. Yenbena's charter is to provide culturally appropriate training to the Indigenous Communities of Barmah, Cummergunja, Echuca, Moama and to a lesser extent Shepparton and Mooroopna. In 2005 Yenbena delivered training in the Certificate II Horticulture, Certificate II in Business Studies (Office Administration), Certificate I Koorie Education and the Pathways for Indigenous Australians program, Yenbena also brokered, Getting your Drivers License and Literacy & Numeracy training through Riverina TAFE and a Cultural Heritage Program through RMIT.



