

## 2006 National No Dole Forum



There was a record attendance at this year's Beacon Foundation National No Dole Forum. More than 100 educators, business representatives, community supporters and Beacon staff gathered in Melbourne in July for the 4th Annual get together. The forum has grown in size every year as more schools, communities and businesses become involved. One forum participant said the meeting provided "a wonderful opportunity to gather, share, learn and be motivated by colleagues on the same path from all across Australia".

There was a range of vibrant presentations and guest speakers from industry leaders to community

organisations, education experts and Beacon representatives. The workshops allowed a number of key messages to be disseminated, but also gave participants the opportunity to gather information on program structure, educational practice and protocols on connecting with local business. The feedback from evaluations was extremely positive; the overwhelming consensus was that the forum is a major support tool for developing No Dole programs in schools.

The Inaugural No Dole awards were presented at the Gala Dinner. Congratulations to the schools that have been recognised as being leaders, for their enormous hard work and for providing students with wonderful opportunities. The Gala Dinner was entertained by Tania Doko from Australian Band Bachelor Girl. Ms Doko was simply sensational and provided a large dose of motivation to the participants. She was ably joined by Richelle Russ from the Pilbara District Education Office who spontaneously jumped up to join in the fun.

The Beacon Foundation was delighted by the response of participants and has already begun planning for next year. Thanks must go to the delegates, presenters and supporting sponsors, in particular the AMP Foundation, for their involvement and enthusiasm for the Forum. Beacon would also like to recognise the hard work of the organising committee and encourage everyone to be a part of the festivities in 2007.



## Chief Executive Report

**Scott Harris**



Beacon's No Dole program has now been rolled out in eighty schools across Australia. This incredible growth has led to the need for a best practice model to be implemented in all participating schools, with a view to introducing "No Dole Plus" in 2007. This new format will involve different approaches to the program including mentoring and financial literacy. It's vital each school achieves a minimum No Dole standard to ensure we continue to develop the best engagement strategies with industry and Beacon's key partners.

Polish has continued to flourish in schools across Australia during 2006, thanks largely to the support of Macquarie Bank Foundation. This project aims to give young people a better understanding of the world of work and employers expectations. It teaches skills such as performing at job interviews, healthy living, deportment and grooming.

During the year Beacon has continued to support and

develop new ideas to help nurture young Indigenous Australians. The "Something Concrete" project in Kununurra, Western Australia, has seen real jobs created for nine local indigenous youth. They have undertaken traineeships in building pre-cast concrete housing and have so far finished one home and have orders for three more.

As 2006 draws to a close we take this opportunity to thank AMP Foundation, AON, Alcoa, Civil Contractors Federation, Liberty Financial, Investec, Mark Cubit, Stanwell, Readymix, Sinclair Knight Merz, Komatsu, Social Ventures Australia and Newmont for their unwavering support of Beacon's work throughout the year. It is exciting to see so many people within these organisations choosing to be involved with Beacon and supporting their local schools to help students realise their true potential.

The strength of Beacon is in the passionate people who are on the ground making such a strong contribution to the success of the foundation. Thanks to Julian, Hannah, Tina, Jane, Hayley, Val, John, Murray, Susan, Crystal and Sarah for your incredible efforts throughout the year.

Lastly I would like to thank all the schools and their communities for working with and supporting Beacon in 2006. The strong relationship between schools, their communities and business is vital to the success of Beacon programs. I have no doubt that we are making a difference in the lives of many young Australians.





Robert Jackson operating the Loader at the Readymix Cordelia Quarry



Dino Donadel (Quarry Manager) with Robert Jackson and Lynn Romano (Ingham State High Beacon Project Officer) in front of the Dump Truck Robert operates.

## Ingham State High School – Student focus; Robert’s story

In Semester 1 of Robert’s Year 10 experience the school had identified a group of young men who had disengaged from the traditional programs and were ‘at risk’ of unsuccessful transition into the Senior Phase of Learning. Sally Thompson, Principal of Ingham High explains, “an alternative curriculum was developed. It was more responsive to the needs of these young men and encompassed strategies to address issues arising from behavioural patterns. The program focussed on developing quality relationships and learning opportunities creating links between industry, the workplace and the school as the learning environment.”

Weekly excursions to places of employment were planned to introduce students to a variety of career pathways and ways to achieve them. Through the school partnership with the Beacon Foundation, a contact was established with Wayne Scott, the North Queensland Manager of Readymix in Townsville. “Young men need to know what types of employment are available. The quarrying industry isn’t glamorous and doesn’t receive a lot of publicity. Having the students on site gives us an opportunity to explain what the industry is all about.” Accepting this invitation, on excursion day, the group visited the Bohle, Townsville Quarry site.

At the end of the year, Robert needed to make some decisions regarding continuing with school. He was not keen to enrol and follow a traditional program, especially since participating in the alternative program in 2005. Following the success of initiatives introduced in 2005, the school created a

program to allow the young men to continue. Robert and his family could see the advantages and he was enrolled. His goals focussed on obtaining qualifications and licences relating to industry. He wanted to work outdoors and had a strong interest in heavy machinery. The school program provided classroom learning, hands on experiences as well as literacy and numeracy support.

**“ His goals focussed on obtaining qualifications and licences relating to industry. ”**

Wednesday work placement was seen as a crucial experience for all the students.

Robert’s situation was complicated. Although attending Ingham State High School, Robert lived at a small community, Rollingstone, 40 minutes south of Ingham, approximately half way to Townsville. He travelled to and from school by bus which limited his working day to school hours. No public transport is available. Through liaising with his family, an arrangement was established for Robert to travel south to the Readymix Bohle quarry in Townsville. All went well. Robert enjoyed the change of environment midweek and he started working towards appropriate licences. Wayne Scott from Readymix decided to extend Robert’s involvement and offer a bigger opportunity.

An opening was available at the Cordelia Quarry, north of Ingham. Discussions between the school, Robert’s family and the Quarry

staff enabled travel and accommodation arrangements to be negotiated for Robert to trial on this site. He was offered a fulltime position. Lynn Romano, Beacon Project Officer at Ingham High said, “Everyone was elated but there was much to organise before it could become reality. Liaising with all parties meant challenges were overcome. Robert and fellow students had been studying towards obtaining Learner’s Licences. This now became crucial as a driver’s licence was essential. The School Youth Support Coordinator assisted with driving lessons. The trip from Rollingstone to the Cordelia Quarry takes 1 hour. If Readymix trucks were on the highway, Robert was able to hitch a lift but otherwise Dad made the return trip twice a day to help his son fulfil his dream.”

Today Robert is working full time, has his driver’s licence and an old but reliable ‘ute’. “He has settled in well to the routines of work”, reported Cordelia Quarry Manager, Dino Donadel. “As part of the smaller site, Robert is not just operating machinery but is involved in maintenance and attends safety meetings. He is becoming multi-skilled and we will support Robert to continue studying towards his licences and qualifications.” Robert informed Mrs Fenoglio, Ingham High Beacon Program Manager, “I’m not missing school and like the work. On my first day I misjudged the time though and arrived at 5.30 am instead of 6.30 am. I don’t think they’ll ever let me forget it! I started with the Dump Truck and this week I’m learning to operate the Loader. I look forward to the day I am allowed to drive the Dump Truck through town.”

As Judith Fenoglio claims, “This story, highlights the benefits of schools working with industry groups in achieving positive outcomes. As a Beacon school, we foster all community links because we believe as a TEAM, Everyone Achieves More!”

### Board Profile David Jones



Mr Jones joined CHAMP in November 2002. He has sixteen years professional experience, the last twelve years in the private equity industry, and previously in management consulting, investment banking and general management. Mr Jones began his career as a consultant with McKinsey & Company in Australia and New Zealand. He left McKinsey to take the role of General Manager of Butterfields Cheese Factors, of the King Island Dairies group.

Since 1994 Mr Jones has worked in the private equity business in Australia and the USA. He spent four years with Macquarie Direct Investment in Sydney and one year at BancBoston Capital in Boston. In

1999 he founded and led the development of UBS Capital’s Australian and New Zealand business.

Mr Jones holds a Bachelor of Engineering (First Class Honours) from the University of Melbourne and a Master of Business Administration from Harvard Business School. He is a Director of Australian Discount Retail and Global Sources Limited (NASDAQ) and was a Director of Sheridan Australia Pty Limited, Austar United Communications Limited, New Price Retail Pty Ltd and Penrice Soda Products Pty Ltd. He is Deputy Chairman of Australian Venture Capital Association Limited and a Director of the Beacon Foundation.

# Uncovering a world of engineering and science and lots, lots more...

"I found out that working in an office isn't boring" was the revelation of one of the 30 students from six high schools in the Perth metropolitan area recently involved in SKM Uncovered. SKM Uncovered was hosted by Sinclair Knight Merz (SKM), a leading project delivery firm, in collaboration with the Beacon Foundation. SKM is proud of its close association with national not-for-profit organisation the Beacon Foundation. Beacon seeks to influence the attitudes and culture of Australians so that each young person develops an independent will to achieve personal success for themselves and their community.

The six schools involved in SKM Uncovered were Lockridge Senior High School, Balga Senior High School, Armadale Senior High School, Swan View Senior High School, Governor Stirling Senior High School and Mandurah High School. The event was designed to provide the students with information on the career options available in the areas of building, resources, infrastructure, water, environment, power and industry.

The students heard from a number of inspiring engineers, scientists and planners. They spent time wandering through various offices and meeting a wide variety of SKM staff. The students discovered that employees worked in many areas including business development and administration, knowledge management, marketing and human resources.

One of the highlights of the day was the safety briefing by SKM's Regional safety Coordinator Matt Davies. The students were shown the personal protective clothing required for working on site and were given an example of an accident which occurred as the result of many things going wrong at once.

Balga Senior High School Deputy Principal, Peter Sinclair thought that the day was an overwhelming success. "The people from SKM were positive, outgoing, bright, enthusiastic (I could go on ...)," Mr Sinclair said. "There is no doubt in my mind that the strong role modelling was more important than any specific knowledge," he said.

"It was obvious that SKM provide a positive work environment where the message about 'positively valuing staff' and 'collegiality' came through very strongly".

SKM Uncovered is just one of the many initiatives coordinated by Beacon and fulfills its strategy to initiate original and innovative projects that demonstrate solutions to youth unemployment, while also encouraging self-help at the local level.



**For more information, contact Hayley McGill, Beacon Foundation W/NT Coordinator on [hayley@beaconfoundation.net](mailto:hayley@beaconfoundation.net).**

## The Lonely Planet commitment to 'No Dole' schools

The Lonely Planet has entered into a partnership with four Victorian schools that truly fulfils the No Dole philosophy. World famous for their travel guides the Lonely Planet is working with Galvin Park, Hoppers Crossing, Laverton Secondary Colleges and Bayside College with their 'No Dole' programs for 2006. They have generously funded Beacon's Polish Program in all four schools this year, while also covering expenses for choices workshop days.

The schools have been overwhelmed by the support from Lonely Planet. They have not only provided generous financial support but have also visited several classes at the schools. Lonely Planet staff have shared their first hand experiences in the industry, including the areas of graphic design, writing, editing and publishing.

Bayside College have also been lucky enough to have a group of their year 10 students conduct a site visit of the Lonely Planet office. This office is everything you would expect of such a dynamic and vibrant company - it's funky, bright and has "chill out" areas for staff. They even have an in-house gym and basketball court (which impressed the students no end). This was no doubt a very unique work culture for the students of Bayside College to experience.

Staff from a range of different areas in Lonely Planet also talked to the students about their roles within the organisation. They explained how they came to fill their positions, the challenges of their jobs and most importantly what they love about working for Lonely Planet.

The students were thrilled with the site visit. Some of the comments included; "I was amazed about how many people work on every book", "I loved the offices and all the lovely pictures on the walls" and "the good part of the day was hearing about the designing of the books".

Free books donated at the end of the day were an added bonus to a great tour. A big thank you must go to Lonely Planet and the Altona Police Department, which provide a free bus for the students to get them to the Lonely Planet office.



## Beacon No Dole Schools List

### Queensland

Berwah State High School  
Clifton State High School  
Dimbulah State High School  
Forest Lake State High School  
Glenmore State High School  
Ingham State High School  
Loganlea State High School  
Malanda State High School  
Maroochydore State High School  
Mt Morgan State High School  
Ravenshoe State High School  
St James College  
Tara Shire State College

### New South Wales

Brisbane Water Secondary College  
Callaghan College  
Doonside Technology High School  
Dubbo City College  
Gymea Technology High School  
Lake Illawarra High School  
Nepean High School  
Rutherford Technology High School  
Sydney Secondary College  
Tomaree High School  
Warilla High School

### ACT

Calwell High School  
Caroline Chisholm High School  
Kambah High School  
Lanyon High School  
Wanniassa School

### West Aust & Northern Territory

Armadale Senior High School  
Balga Senior High School  
Governor Stirling Senior High School  
Kununurra District High School  
Lockridge Senior High School  
Mandurah High School  
Palmerston High School  
Swan View Senior High School

### Victoria

Alexandra Secondary College  
Bayside College  
Cleeland Secondary College  
Croyden Community School  
Doveton Secondary College  
Echuca College  
Euroa Secondary College  
Flinders Peak Secondary College  
Galvin Park Secondary College  
Hampton Park Secondary College  
Hoppers Crossing Secondary College  
Kurunjang Secondary College  
Laverton Secondary College  
Lyndhurst Secondary College  
Melton Secondary College  
Mornington Secondary College  
Mt Erin Secondary College  
Newcomb Secondary College  
St Joseph's College  
Sunshine Secondary College  
Western Port Secondary College  
Yea High School

### South Australia

Christies Beach High School  
Eastern Fleurieu High School  
Smithfield Plains High School

### Tasmania

Brooks High School  
Campbell Town District High School  
Cressy District High School  
Geeveston High School  
Geilston Bay High School  
Huonville High School  
Oatlands High School  
Penguin High School  
Rokeby High School  
Triabunna District High School  
Ulverstone High School  
Wynyard High School

## No Dole Program

# Rutherford Technology High School students visit Komatsu



Major sponsor of the Beacon Foundation's No Dole Program – Komatsu Australia Pty Ltd - was eager to help out when asked to take part in the No Dole Program at Rutherford Technology High School in the NSW Hunter Valley. The New South Wales Operations Manager for Komatsu, Jeremy Brett, recently visited the school to talk to year 10 students. Jeremy gave a fascinating insight to students on what happens in an industrial organisation such as Komatsu, which manufactures and maintains mining and construction equipment.

During the visit Jeremy informed students of the qualities Komatsu looks for in employees, including the importance of punctuality, appropriate dress, and commitment to the company. He also talked about the role of apprentices and what type of work they do on a day to day basis. He advised students thinking of applying for an apprenticeship to know why they want to be an apprentice and make sure they have a goal and long term career plan. Jeremy also told the students about opportunities that exist for young people following a skilled trade career pathway.

Jeremy invited students from the school to visit the Komatsu facility at Tomago to see the work

that goes on there and to get a feel for an industrial work environment. On arrival at the site, students underwent a brief site induction and were issued with safety glasses before heading off on a tour.

Students were enthralled by the experience. Seeing the massive size of the machines, walking through the warehouse which housed gigantic spare parts stored in neat order and watching apprentices, some of whom were only a few years older than themselves, dismantle machines with confidence was fantastic.

Relieving Careers Adviser Linda Poolman who accompanied the students on the site visit said "the willingness of companies such as Komatsu to be involved with the No Dole program provides a unique opportunity for students to talk to industry representatives and to see for themselves what an industrial workplace is like. Our sincere thanks are extended to Jeremy Brett and to Komatsu for their assistance and for giving their time to talk to our students".

With 10 apprenticeships on offer at the Tomago facility next year for Plant Mechanics and High Voltage Electricians, Komatsu is certainly playing its part in providing opportunities for the next generation of skilled tradespeople.

## Staff Profile

### Hayley McGill



Hayley commenced work with the Beacon Foundation in January 2006 as the Western Australian / Northern Territory Coordinator. She completed her teaching degree in 1998 and spent two years teaching in rural schools in WA before traveling overseas for three years, two of which were spent teaching in London. After returning to Australia, Hayley accepted a position at Lockridge

Senior High School. It was at Lockridge that Hayley first heard about the Beacon Foundation and the work that they do. After attending the National No Dole Conference she went onto become the school based No Dole Coordinator. In the 12 months she coordinated the project at the school level she was inspired by how much business, industry and the community wanted to help young people in our schools. "Working for Beacon has allowed me the opportunity to be part of something broader in its vision for the future of our young people" Hayley said.

Hayley is really relishing the different work environment and still enjoys the opportunity to get back into the classroom and talk to students who are part of the No Dole project.

Away from work Hayley still enjoys traveling, loves the beach and enjoys a good book.