

JOB WELL DONE

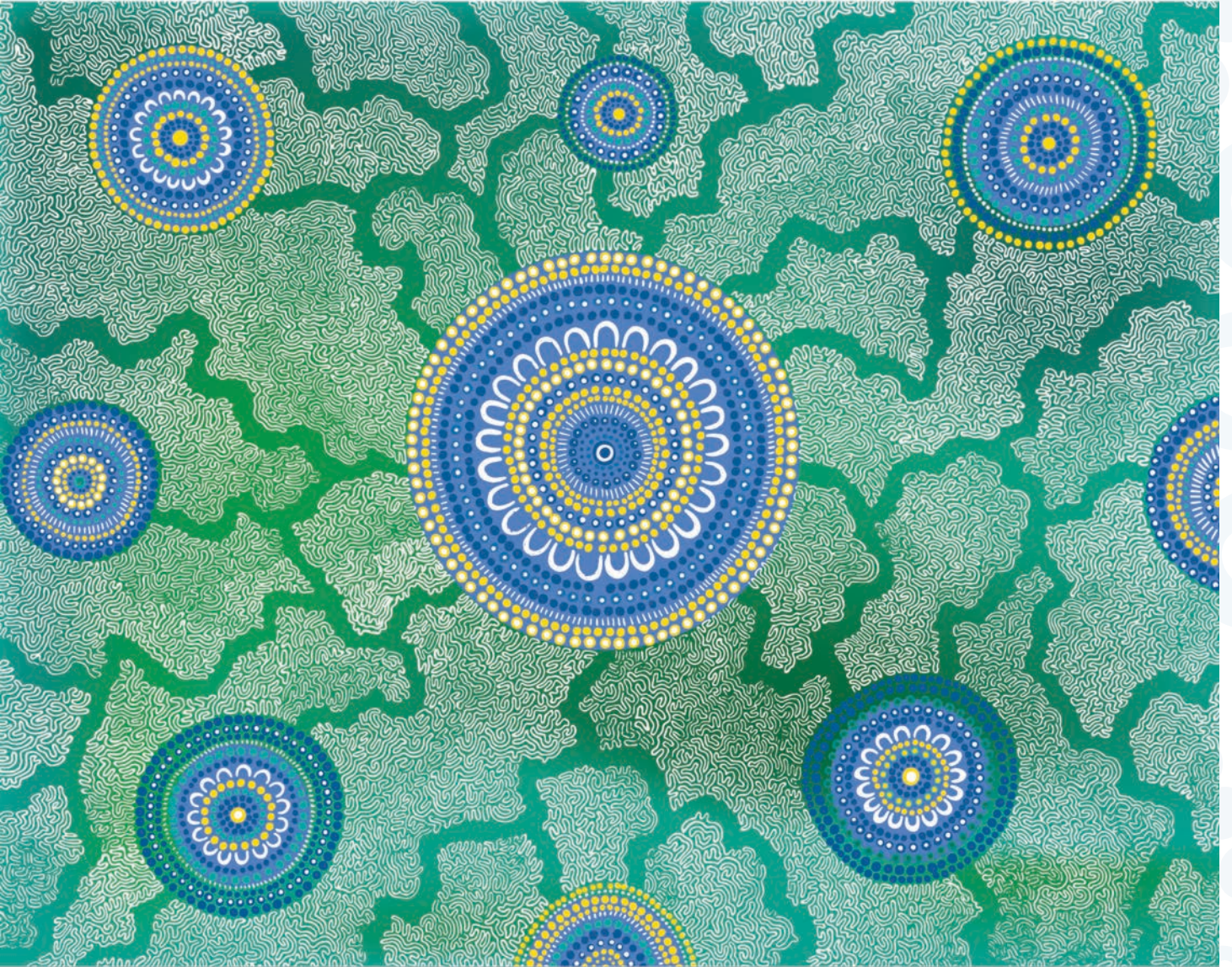
A collection of Australian
Apprenticeship success
stories

BRAYDEN
Services & operations

Hard Yakka


Colac Otway
SHIRE

AATIS



**We acknowledge the traditional owners
of the land where we work and pay our
respects to elders past and present.**

In 2021, AATIS commissioned an artwork from talented Gumbaynggirr artist, Tulli Stevens.

Tulli's paintings represent the complex, elemental beauty of patterns in nature, community connections, family and her journey. When describing the artwork, this is what Tulli had to say:

“The large central piece represents a meeting place, for people to come together and share their knowledge. The smaller circles around the outside are families, groups, and communities. The pathways connecting all of them together represent meaningful information and communications being shared and passed on through community. Showing that even with diversity we are all connected.”

Keep an eye out for Tulli's stunning artwork on some of AATIS' products and materials.



Brayden O'Dwyer
Horticulture



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Who is AATIS?

The Australian Apprenticeships and Traineeships Information Service (AATIS) offers pathways information to students, job hunters, career advisers and employers. Our website and resources are used by schools, parents, friends and supporters providing career planning and direction. We are active across online and digital platforms while also providing call, email and messenger support to help people navigate through the Australian Apprenticeships landscape. AATIS is free to use and is funded by the Australian Government Department of Employment and Workplace Relations.



Light Electric Vehicle Charging (Future Focused Career)



Gabe Georgiadis is a fourth-year electrical apprentice. He works for the company Jet Charge, who specialise in Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure. Gabe always knew he wanted to work within the electrical sector. He considered getting his A-Grade and working as a tradesman on commercial or domestic jobs as an electrician but with the growth of the electric vehicle charging sector, Gabe decided to become an Electric Vehicle Charging Mechanic instead.

‘Working as a Light Automotive EV Mechanic, one provides electric car maintenance services and repair including coding and reprogramming of vehicle software. It involves tracking and documenting the analysis and progression of the work.’ Says Gabe.



Gabe says at Jet Charge there are many different pathways one can take and as an apprentice one gets moved around and gains exposure to different areas within the role and company. This is a great advantage as one would have had experience in all fields of electric vehicle charging at the time of finishing his/her apprenticeship. Gabe describes his ability to learn broadly as one of the most exciting parts of his apprenticeship.

There is a lot of groundwork that goes into how we actually charge these cars.



Gabe's favourite part of the job is seeing a project from start to finish. He says he loves the satisfaction he gets at the end of it when everything works – from a charger to the car. Looking into the future, as the growth of electric vehicles rapidly increases, Gabe says that the role of an electric vehicle charging mechanic will be important in the electrical space.





Erin
Howe-Jones

Erin Howe-Jones is a Lead Educator at G8 Education, an early childhood education centre. When thinking about her career choices, Erin knew she wanted to be a school teacher. While looking at study options, she found the G8 Education Study Pathway Program, fell instantly in love with it and has never looked back.

Within two years of working for G8 Education, Erin has completed her Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care and within that short time landed herself a Lead Educator role. She has found her passion within Early Childhood Education and Care and decided to continue her journey with them.



Erin's job as a Lead Educator involves planning routines and activities for educators as well as planning specialised activities for children with additional needs. Erin says that she wants to make sure that all children are catered for, and so are their goals, individual ideas, and interests.

Early Childhood Education and Care is a sector that is constantly growing, and therefore continuously needs more educators. The job of an early childhood educator is extremely fulfilling; one gets to see the impact of their work daily by watching the children grow and learn.

Investing in early childcare leads to a better future.



It is a common misconception that the study pathway to become a teacher is strictly through the higher education/ university system; this is far from the truth. There are multiple vocational education pathways that lead to teaching in a classroom. These pathways offer real-life experience along with theoretical learning as the main factors in a traineeship include working whilst learning and getting paid.

G8 Education offer a pathway that starts with vocational education (Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care), with which one can then progress to a Diploma in Early Childhood Education and Care. To become a teacher, one would need to follow it up with an Advance in a Bachelor Scholarship Program.

Brayden O'Dwyer



Brayden O'Dwyer is completing a traineeship, working towards a Certificate II in Horticulture. Brayden lives with cerebral palsy and wanted to do something hands-on involving the outdoors. He found the perfect mix of both in Horticulture.

He discovered his passion for the outdoors while undertaking work experience at the Otway Shire Council. 'Not only is Brayden a fantastic worker and an immense benefit to the Otway Shire but by employing a trainee with a disability, the Otway Shire is giving someone a go who years ago, may not have been given the same opportunity. This is an amazing change to see within our society.' Said Brayden's boss, Mark.



*It's just the physical part I love.
Pushing the mower, using my
arms, using my hands.*

Mark talked to us about the benefits of having Brayden around, his fantastic sense of humour which lets his colleagues know that not everything is as important or as serious as it may seem. Brayden's humour and outlook on life has shown to have an amazing impact on those around him.



Brayden's boss, Mark, says that taking Brayden on to work and starting a traineeship was a no-brainer.'

We'd like to thank Vic Group Training and the Colac Otway Shire for helping us to share Brayden's inspiring story.

Construction, Plumbing
& Services

Candace Spence



Candace Spence is a former carpentry apprentice, who now works as a service coordinator for a plumbing company. We spoke with Candace about some of the challenges she faced during her apprenticeship, and how attitudes in the industry are changing.

Candace said she always had an interest in construction , particularly in woodwork. She was the only female in her timberwork class at school. Despite being the only female, she finished with the 3rd best result in the class.

After school, Candace undertook a Certificate III in Carpentry. She was drawn to carpentry from seeing a project from start to finish and at the end being proud of what she had made. The satisfaction that came with finishing a project is what kept her going.

With more and more women in the trade area, the attitudes towards that are going to change dramatically.



Candace loved her time as a carpentry apprentice and would recommend more females get into trades. Trades are a great career opportunity for those who like working with their hands and like physically seeing the results of their work. She believes the industry is going to change, and it is going to come in a huge wave.

As much as Candace enjoyed her apprenticeship, being a female in trade did not come without its challenges. 'One of the hardest challenges was getting the guys used to having me on-site and accepting me as a tradeswoman,' says Candace. Although this was something Candace struggled with, she believes the more women that commence trade apprenticeships the more attitudes towards women in trades will change. Candace cheekily remarked that when attitudes change, people will want tradeswomen more than tradesmen.

Construction, Plumbing
& Services

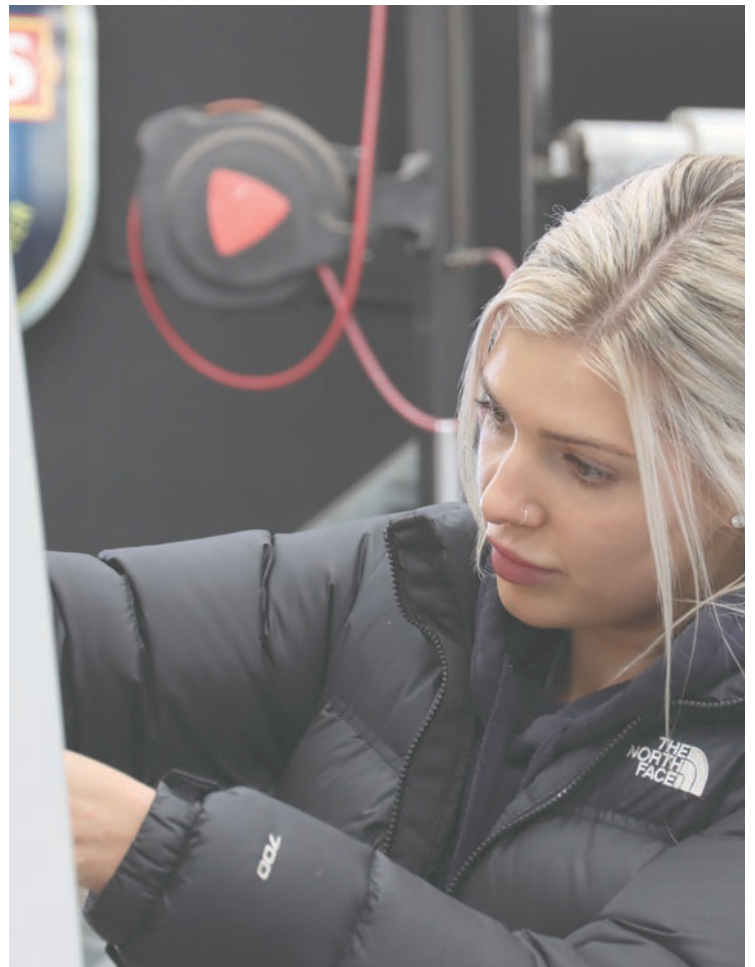
Chrissy
Gensch



Chrissy Gensch is a former apprentice working at Bear Designs in Sydney, Australia. Chrissy completed a Certificate III in Signs and Graphics and is now a fully qualified Signwriter. Chrissy went to TAFE once a week and then worked in the workshop for the remaining 4 days. She enjoyed the hands-on element of working whilst learning and was able to apply and practice the theory she was learning at TAFE.

Chrissy explained to us that there was a lot to learn as it is a broad industry. Every company has their own niche and focus. She says that wrapping can be quite hard at first and it takes more than knowing the theory side to get it right, it takes a while to learn and doesn't happen till one starts working with it every day.

Chrissy says that the key is practice. Her favourite part of her job is the satisfaction that comes with finishing a job especially when she comes across it on a car or a building.



Until you start working with it every day, it takes a while to learn how to get it just right!

Being a female in trade, Chrissy says people are often taken back by her presence in the workshop and may even ask for one of the boys. 'The more people see it; the more people will get used to it and it will be a normal thing.' says Chrissy. She is proud to be doing something that proves that females do belong in trade industries.



Construction, Plumbing
& Services

Megan
Lewis



Megan Lewis is a qualified Painter and Decorator. She completed a Certificate III in Painting and Decorating with Master Painters Australia in a duration of four years. When Megan first began her apprenticeship, she was placed in large, commercial jobs. They were very fast paced and lacked detail.

Megan did not know if the commercial painting industry was well-suited for her. She then got moved to a high-end, residential sector where restoration was a crucial part of the work. It was here she truly found her passion and has continued to work in this area.

Megan has always loved painting. She did not think of it as a career for a long time but later in life she took up the opportunity of a Painting and Decorating apprenticeship and has loved her rewarding career ever since.

When Megan was younger, she never thought of doing a trade and was taught that they were for men. But Megan now wants young girls to understand that they can also do a trade. Megan talked about how most worksites mostly have males, who are not used to seeing women.



Yes, you can be in a trade...It's going to be a very, very good thing for you!

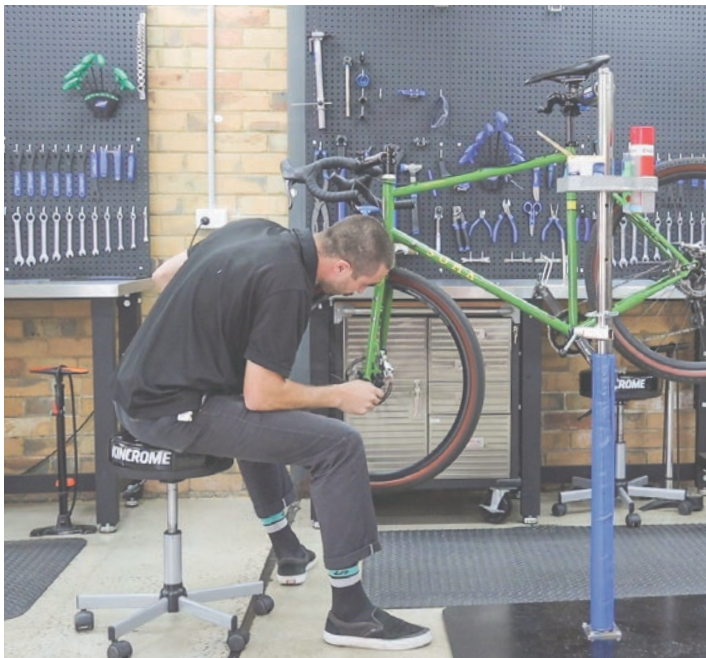
But once they see how well she does her job, being a woman on a trade site does not matter. Megan discusses how customers are often ecstatic to see a female in a trade, welcome you and want to work with you.

When we asked Megan for advice for women considering a trade, she said 'Get amongst it. It is great!'





Harry Gardner is the State Technical Trainer at the Bicycle Academy. The Bicycle Academy is a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) and provide a workshop for trainees completing a Certificate III in Bicycle Workshop Operations. The course itself is provided by Cytech – an internationally recognised training and accreditation scheme for bicycle technicians.



Harry had always been passionate about bikes. He would always play around with them and compete in downhill competitions. In 2003, when Harry was in year 7, he got his first job in a bike shop and has been in-love with this work ever since.

Harry has completed and now works in training others in a Certificate III in Bicycle Workshop Operations. This is an 18–24-month apprenticeship and is conducted at the Bicycle Academy workshop, 1 day a week at the workshop and the rest at the employers' onsite. Harry spends his time going out and coaching different students at their workplaces, ensuring they are getting the right experience and knowledge to complete their qualification.

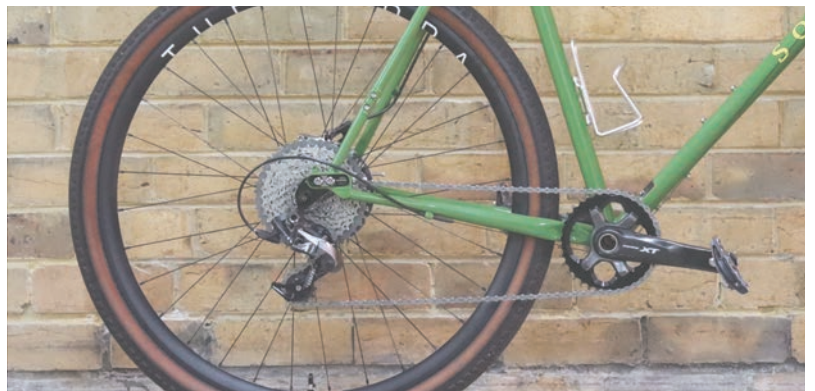
It's actually about helping customers get back on the bike and find that love and passion for cycling again.



The benefit for the trainees is that by the end of it, they have a nationally recognised qualification. It was also reported that after completing the certificate, most trainees had a high level of confidence in their work which was noticeable in their workplace, and highly valued by employers.

Harry's favourite parts of his work is that it does not involve selling a product to someone, instead, it is about helping customers get back on the bike – find that passion and love for cycling again.

'Knowing that the bike is safe and working well, I feel like I'm really doing something for the community that way.' says Harry.



Furnishing



Jason Mackintosh is a qualified Floor Sander who has been working in the industry for over 20 years. He now owns his own company, Mackintosh Floor Sanding. He started-out working with his dad when he was 15, who was also a Floor Sander. After spending the first 15 years of his career working with his father, Jason was faced with the decision of a career change to the police force or to open his own floor sanding business. Fast forward to today, Mackintosh Floor Sanding has now been open for almost 10 years.



Jason talked about how most people think the job is just sanding wooden floors but there is a lot more to the job.

‘You get to sand and finish timber, you get to install timber, you get to diagnose species and problems. There is a lot involved in the floor sanding industry,’ says Jason.

A quality floor is a foundation of a good building and making sure that the service is provided in a quality manner, he said, is a very important part of the job.

Throughout all these years of floor sanding, he says that it has developed more into a passion rather than a job. He says that every job he does, he strives to make it at least 1% better than the last. Jason discussed how like many trades; floor sanding is not easy at the beginning. It takes around 5 years to become comfortable within your work but from then on it becomes more of a passion.

‘It’s not an easy job, but it’s a rewarding one.’ Said Jason.

*It’s not an easy job,
but it’s a rewarding
job.*



For more information contact:

Australian Apprenticeships & Traineeships Information Service

Phone: 1800 338 022

Email: contact@aatiss.com.au

www.aatiss.com.au

If you have any questions about this guide, please email us at **contact@aatiss.com.au**

We are always seeking for ways to collaborate on and disseminate reliable Australian Apprenticeship Pathways information. The best way to stay in touch is to subscribe to our newsletter through the contact-us page on the website or by emailing us.

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