

See what you can be**Welcome to August Edition..**

As we move through another busy and productive month, we are excited to share some wonderful achievements, upcoming training opportunities, and highlights from recent events across our network.

Firstly, thanks to Hunter Local Jobs for funding a Dogging and a Crane Course for Vanessa and Yvette, both of whom are not with a service provider. Together with Shalienne, another EmpowerHER participants they have now completed their training with HPOTS. This is a fantastic achievement and a testament to their commitment to developing their skills and advancing their careers.

The young women participating in the EmpowerHER Build a Boat program are more than half way through the build of their 'FireBug' dinghy with the launch date set for 24 September.

We have received confirmation our 4 week Painting and Decorating Course will commence at Maitland TAFE on 26 October 2026, providing another pathway for participants to gain trade skills. (Flyer coming)

Our EmpowerHER Networking and Informal Mentoring Nights continue to go from strength to strength, with two successful events held recently. It has been wonderful to see new professional connections formed and old friendships rekindled. It is a welcoming space for women working in male-dominated industries or those looking for work (supporters welcome too) that helps to foster confidence, collaboration, and build a community.

We are excited to also offer a 4 week pre-trade welding course at Muswellbrook TAFE commencing 11 November. More details on Page 5.

Thank you to everyone who continues to support and participate in our programs and events.

We look forward to sharing more success stories and opportunities with you in the months ahead.

the BWC team

EmpowerHER Build a Boat program



Through a partnership between the Making Waves Foundation, Career Links and the Educational Pathways Program (EPP), the first-ever all-girls Wright of Passage Program commenced at Lake Macquarie High School in July.

The inaugural program brings together 10 young women in Years 9, 10 and 11 from five local high schools: Lake Macquarie High School, Hunter Sports High School, Glendale Technology High School, West Wallsend High School and Morisset High School.

Together, they are building a 'FireBug' dinghy while gaining valuable hands-on experience and practical skills. This exciting initiative is exploring how purpose-driven, experiential learning can open pathways to further education, employment and industry opportunities for young women.



Throughout the program, participants are developing practical boat-building skills, building self-confidence and strengthening their teamwork and communication abilities.

The program is also supported by Teralba Amateur Sailing Club, which generously provides facilities and a support boat to assist with the sailing component.

The Program is a powerful example of what can be achieved through collaboration, creating opportunities for young women to challenge stereotypes, discover new career pathways and develop the confidence to pursue their goals.



Here's to building skills, opening doors, breaking barriers and inspiring the next generation of women in construction and marine trades and beyond.

For more information on the Making Waves Foundation
Visit <https://makingwaves.au/wright-of-passage/>

For more information on the Educational Pathways Program
<https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/students/career-and-study-pathways/educational-pathways-program>

EmpowerHer Mentoring Night

Kathy Clarkson, WH&S Trainer, Key Consultation Solutions.

Speaker at our July event - Motivation Tips for Success

1. Know That You Belong

You have earned your place. Trust your abilities, embrace new opportunities, and remember that your skills and perspective are valuable.

2. Use Your Voice Early

Speak up with confidence. Clear communication helps establish respect, build confidence, and foster strong professional relationships from the outset.

3. Back Yourself

Believe in your value and recognise your worth. Do not wait for others to validate your potential before pursuing your goals.

4. Build a Supportive Network

Surround yourself with people who encourage, challenge, and inspire you to grow. Success is easier when you have positive influences around you.

5. Protect Your Wellbeing

A successful career is important, but so are your health and happiness. Prioritise balance, set boundaries, and look after yourself along the way.

6. Show Yourself Kindness

You will not be perfect every day, and that is okay. Extend yourself the same understanding and compassion you would offer a friend.

7. Choose Positive Self-Talk

The conversations you have with yourself shape your confidence. Speak to yourself with encouragement, patience, and belief in what you can achieve.



Thanks to Kathy for sharing her career journey at our July monthly Networking and Informal Mentoring night

Good News Story

| Lift Her Up – Women in Crane Training

We would like to acknowledge Hunter Local Program for sharing this good news story.

What started with a conversation at our Lift Her Up Women in Crane Operations Information Session back in May, has now turned into a major career milestone for two inspiring women, Yvette and Vanessa both participants of the EmpowerHER Pathways Program.

After attending the Lift Her Up event and hearing firsthand from experienced women working across the crane and lifting industry, Yvette and Vanessa (amongst many others) left feeling motivated to explore a career they had never seriously considered before. The stories shared by our guest speakers, along with the practical advice and encouragement offered throughout the session, gave them the confidence to take the next step. That next step was enrolling in HPots Dogging Crane Training course.

Other women in attendance at the Lift Her Up session have also enrolled in crane training and have completed other training with the support of their Workforce Australia Providers, however these two women were not attached to a Workforce Australia Provider and did not have the same supports to financially cover the cost of the training.

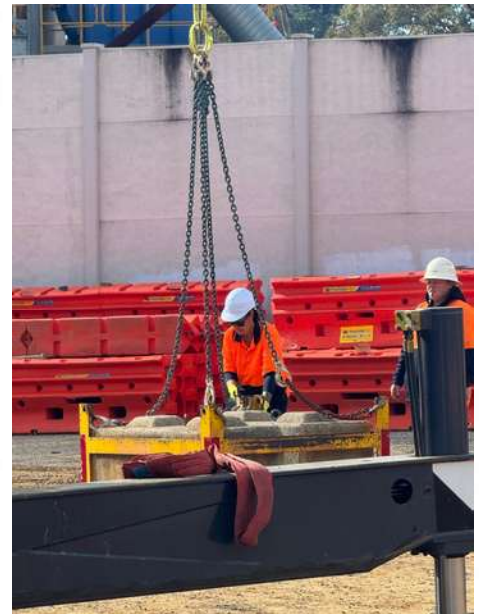
Hunter Local Jobs were excited to offer this training to these two women, covered under their flexible funding. Following two weeks of hands-on learning, practical experience, and assessment, both women have now successfully completed their training and received their Dogging licences, opening the door to exciting new opportunities in the crane and construction industries.

Their journey is exactly what Lift Her Up was designed to achieve - connecting women with industry role models, breaking down barriers, and providing a clear pathway into rewarding careers in crane operations. The momentum doesn't stop there. Building on their success, both women have already enrolled in C6 Crane Training, continuing their professional development and expanding their skills to create even more opportunities for their futures.

They both spoke at our Lift Her Up session held in August and shared their journeys with other women interested in entering the industry. Seeing participants move from attending an information session to gaining nationally recognised qualifications and continuing their training is a fantastic outcome, demonstrating the real impact that industry engagement, mentoring, and accessible training can have.

We are incredibly proud of both women for embracing a new challenge, backing themselves, and investing in their future. Their achievements are an inspiration to others considering a career in the crane and lifting industry.

Congratulations to Vanessa and Yvette our newest licensed doggers. We can't wait to see them continue their journey through C6 training and beyond.





Women in Manufacturing

empowerHER
pathways

delivered by  **careerlinks**



**Nationally Recognised
Training
Fully Funded Engineering
Pathway Program**

Course description:

This practical Engineering Pre Trade welding course provides participants with foundational skills in workshop machinery, electric welding equipment, and basic engineering project work. Participants will develop entry-level engineering and welding skills through hands-on training in a workshop environment.

Course outcomes include:

You will gain skills in these nationally recognised units:

MEMPE001 – Use engineering workshop machines

MEMPE002 – Use electric welding machines

MEMPE006 – Undertake a basic engineering project

The course is designed to build confidence, practical workplace skills, and industry knowledge for those considering a pathway into engineering and fabrication trades

How to get involved:

Please email- bwc@careerlinks.nsw.edu.au to be involved

Location

TAFE NSW Muswellbrook
63 Maitland St
Muswellbrook NSW 2333

Family-friendly schedule:

2 days (Wed & Fri)
Hours: 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM

Delivery:

Face to Face

Duration

4 weeks

Start date

11 November 2026

End Date

4 December 2026

 131 601

 TAFE NSW Manufacturing