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empowerHER pathways

delivered by careerlinks

NEWSLETTER

See what you can be



Welcome

It has been another exciting month for EmpowerHER Pathways, with young women stepping outside their comfort zones, trying new things and discovering where their skills and interests could take them.

Female students explored careers in trades, engineering and technical roles during our Women in Power Industry Immersion Day at AGL's Bayswater Power Station, while on 24 September we proudly celebrated the launch of 'Pinkie Pie', a Firebug dinghy built from the ground up through our first all-girls Wright of Passage Program in Lake Macquarie.

The opportunities keep coming, with an exciting Painting & Decorating Couse at Maitland TAFE, an Advanced Manufacturing course at Muswellbrook TAFE and a Try Manufacturing Day at Tighes Hill TAFE just around the corner. These initiatives gives more women the chance to gain hands-on skills, connect with industry and explore new career pathways.

the BWC team

Regional Development Australia HUNTER

JOHN HOLLAND

AMPCONTROL

agl

TAFE NSW

SINGLETON COUNCIL

muswellbrook shire council

hmc Hunter Multicultural Communities

EmpowerHER- Build a Boat

Ten young women.
Five schools.
Ten weeks.
One sailing dinghy built from the ground up.



The inaugural EmpowerHER Wright of Passage (WoP) Pilot Program brought together 10 young women for a hands-on, 10-week journey of learning, teamwork and personal growth.

Delivered by the Making Waves Foundation in partnership with Career Links and the Education Pathways Program, participants built a Firebug sailing dinghy from the ground up while developing practical skills, learning to use tools, solve problems, building confidence and resilience in the process,



The program culminated in the boat's launch at Teralba Amateur Sailing Club on 24 September marking the achievement of a term of dedication and collaboration.

Remarkably, while only one participant initially wanted to sail, all 10 took to the water by the end, demonstrating the power of opportunity, encouragement and self-belief.

A special thank you to Lake Macquarie High School for its support of the program by generously providing access to its grounds, creating a dedicated space for the build.

New BWC Team Member - Louise Kirk



Please join us in welcoming Louise to the BWC team. Louise brings extensive experience in community services, employment support and youth work. Most recently, she has been running her own coaching business, helping women build confidence and achieve their employment and business goals.

Over recent weeks, Louise has begun connecting with program participants and building the supportive relationships that are central to our work. Welcome, Louise!

The Power of Mentoring: A meaningful exchange

Mentoring can be a rewarding experience that benefits both the mentee and the mentor. Mentees gain valuable guidance, build confidence, and accelerate their personal and professional development through the support of experienced industry mentors.

Mentors, in turn, enhance their leadership skills, gain fresh perspectives, and experience the satisfaction of helping others grow. At the heart of successful mentoring is strong communication - it builds trust, encourages reflection, and fosters mutual learning. Mentoring also strengthens workplace culture, promotes collaboration, and drives long-term success.



Mentoring has its ups and downs.

If you work in the areas of Advance Manufacturing, Construction, Clean Energy and Digital and Technology and are ready to make a difference we would like to hear from you!
Apply now to become a mentor and help shape the future - email bwc@careerlinks.nsw.edu.au for our Mentor Pack

YOUNG Business MIND Awards
Presented by careerlinks

The Young Business Mind Awards (YBMA) is seeking sponsors to help inspire the next generation of innovators, entrepreneurs and problem-solvers across the Hunter region.

Sponsorship provides a unique opportunity to showcase your organisation's commitment to education, innovation and youth development, while gaining valuable brand exposure and engagement with schools, students and the wider community.



With partnership options ranging from award category sponsorships to major event partnerships, your support will help young people turn their ideas into action and create positive change for the future.

For more information on sponsorship opportunities, please contact the Career Links events team



Women in Manufacturing

empowerHER pathways
delivered by careerlinks

Building Women's Careers
An Australian Government Initiative

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

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TAFE NSW Manufacturing

Women in Power – AGL Bayswater Power Station



Thanks to AGL, an EmpowerHER Pathways partner, 20 female students from schools across the Hunter recently took part in an inspiring Student Immersion Day at AGL Bayswater Power Station located at Muswellbrook.

The experience provided students with valuable first-hand insight into the diverse career opportunities available across the energy sector.

Through interactive activities, a behind-the-scenes site tour and conversations with AGL employees, students explored pathways in trades, engineering, technology, science and a range of other fields.

A challenge card encouraged students to connect with staff, ask questions and discover more about different career journeys, with the chance to win a prize.

Thank you to AGL for supporting this valuable opportunity. Experiences like these play an important role in helping students explore career pathways, make informed decisions and plan for their futures.





SAVE THE DATE - 03 DECEMBER 2026

EmpowerHER Networking & Informal Mentoring night is being hosted by AMP Control from 5.30-7pm. Registration link coming soon.



Feedback and content suggestions welcome
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