INSPIRATION FOR THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE THE WORLD TURN

MAKE

WINTER 2015

GAME CHANGER

AWARD WINNING PHOTOGRAPHER ROBIN RIDDLE

SURFING THE MENU

WITH WILSON AGUIAR

Trade UP

HOW ONE TRADIE WENT FROM BUILDINGS TO BEDSIDES

WIN A PHOTOGRAPHIC PRINT BY ROBIN RIDDLE
GREAT CHOICES. GREAT CAREER.

TAFE celebrates the change makers of our country, the people who make the world turn – the builders, the bakers, the fancy clothes makers and people who just amaze you.

Our graduates are recognised as being the most job-ready workers in the state with education from the largest training provider around.

As a part of the TAFE Queensland network, we offer programs from more than 50 locations across the state as well as online or in the workplace. This means no matter where you’re studying, you’ll have access to the highest quality courses available.

TAFE isn’t about second choices, it’s a place where you get a first rate education. A TAFE qualification is the proof you’re ready to turn the ordinary into the extraordinary and make great happen.

ENROL TODAY FOR MID YEAR
tafeeastcoast.edu.au
COVER PHOTO

Our cover photographer Brian Geritz is studying Diploma of Graphic Design at TAFE Queensland East Coast. Diploma of Photo Imaging starts July 2015.

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IMPORTANT DATES

26 MAY  Bundaberg Careers Expo
27 MAY  Fraser Coast Careers Expo
28 MAY  Gympie Careers Expo
16 JUNE  Open Day
          TAFE Queensland East Coast
          Mooloolaba and Bundaberg
17 JUNE  Open Day
          TAFE Queensland East Coast
          Nambour and Fraser Coast
24 JUNE  Open Day
          TAFE Queensland East Coast
          and USC Gympie
25 JUNE  Open Day
          TAFE Queensland East Coast
          Maroochydore
21 JULY  Sunshine Coast Careers Expo

NOT TO BLOW OUR OWN TRUMPET, BUT WE ARE PRETTY GOOD AT WHAT WE DO

87% OF STUDENTS GO ON TO WORK OR FURTHER STUDY*

96% OF QUEENSLANDERS** RECOGNISE TAFE AND ITS REPUTATION FOR QUALITY

>50 LOCATIONS

TAFE QUEENSLAND OFFERS COURSES FROM MORE THAN 50 LOCATIONS ACROSS THE STATE AS WELL AS ONLINE OR IN THE WORKPLACE

*NCVER 2014 Student Outcomes  **TAFE Queensland Campaign Evaluation research prepared by MCR

Published by TAFE Queensland East Coast, Media and Marketing. All information was accurate at time of publication as at May 2015; however, TAFE policies, tuition fees and course content are subject to change without notice.
I loved how flexible TAFE was. I was able to work at a pace that suited me and completed my diploma in under a year, which is exactly what I’d hoped for. I found working externally suited me perfectly. With great communication from my teacher, TAFE also gave me confidence and all I needed to start a university degree next year.

Paige Smith
Graduated 2014
Certificate III in Children’s Services and Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care

“The initiative is a great idea – there are not too many programs with a guaranteed job at the end of it,” he said.

Indigenous students work toward guaranteed construction jobs

Sawing blocks of pine and buzzing around in steel cap boots is a blast for indigenous high school students in Hervey Bay who are learning the basics of building and getting job ready.

The year 11 Hervey Bay students are participating in an innovative six month Construction Certificate I program with a school based apprenticeship and guaranteed job when they finish.

One of the participants, 16 year old Brayden Tucker said it will open up more job opportunities in the future and a greater variety of jobs.

“One really looking forward to getting into work – it’s a great opportunity,” he said.

“It’s really good [the course] I’m loving it, especially building actual things.

“This and footy is all I’m interested in!”

TAFE Queensland East Coast Construction Teacher Scott Staunton said the students were learning how to use drop saws, rip saws, nailing tools, surface planers and more and giving them the basics which are relevant and job specific to what they will be doing in the industry.

“This initiative is a great idea – there are not too many programs with a guaranteed job at the end of it,” he said.

Another participant in the course Bernie Williams agreed with Brayden and said the experience at TAFE was more practical than school.

“The TAFE teachers are really great, supportive and help us out when we need it,” he said.

“It will give us a better opportunity in the future.”

This joint venture involves employers from Hervey Bay and Bundaberg working with TAFE Queensland East Coast, the Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Multicultural Affairs (DATSIMA) and the Department of Education, Training and Employment (DETE).
A carpenter for the past 19 years, Jesse Sleeman hung up his tool belt for a career in aged care following his father's diagnosis with terminal lung cancer.

“The palliative care team at the time said Dad would need a full-time carer and when I walked into the room, he pointed at me,” Mr Sleeman said.

“It was highly emotional, but just something that needed to be done. I wasn’t just going to let it be.”

Following his father’s death, the 33-year-old did some travelling before enrolling at TAFE Queensland East Coast last year to complete a Certificate III in Aged Care incorporating a Home Care Certificate.

Jesse said once he had made the decision to apply to study, he downed tools and put ‘120 percent into TAFE.’

For anyone thinking about a career change or a return to study, Jesse said “just do it”.

“Make the choice and do it. But, you have to be doing it for the right reasons,” he said.

“Definitely, in this industry, it’s not about money or what you’re going to own. It’s about what you can give to other people.”

Some people may wonder how people can work in this field, but for Jesse, there’s no better way to make people happy and give them the respect they deserve.

“It makes you feel good because they’re happy and it’s really rewarding to see them smile,” he said.
FROM CEO TO AWARD WINNING PHOTOGRAPHER

GAME Changer

Photographer
ROBIN RIDDLE
One of the many skills a gifted photographer needs is the ability to make a fairly interesting subject look spectacular.

TAFE photography graduate Robin Riddle has this gift in abundance having won a swath of national and international photography awards for his stunning landscape images since graduating with a Diploma of Photo Imaging in 2014.

“IF YOU DO SOMETHING AND WANT TO BE BEST IN FIELD AT IT, YOU DO WHATEVER YOU CAN TO MAKE THAT HAPPEN.”

It wasn’t until Robin decided to do the famed Camino de Santiago walk in 2011 in Spain that his love of photography was fully ignited.

While he walked with many people, he particularly hit it off with a Canadian pro-photographer who Robin said invoked the concept of a career in photography back into his head.

Before studying Robin worked as a hospitality manager for 35 years in NSW and was Group CEO for East Leagues Club for 17 years.

“I still had my original film 35mm Pentax camera and so it was a complete change of direction for me to consider working in photography,” he said.

“I came back [from Spain], resigned from my position at East Leagues and relocated to Twin Waters at the Sunshine Coast where I had an investment property.

“People sometimes tend to think it’s possible to be a photographer and just wing it, but there is so much to learn.”

“What I learned at TAFE is ‘you don’t know what you don’t know’.

Robin’s teacher Robert Della Piana added that at TAFE people learn what genre clicks for them, particularly as students are exposed to several areas plus the opportunity to mix with industry.

“At the end of the year we host exhibitions and invite people from industry,” he said.

The Sunshine Coast Daily tends to take on one or two cadets from the end of year exhibit and graphic designers and advertising agencies attend among others likely to engage a photographer.

“About 70% of our students establish their own businesses within the first two years of graduating, particularly in wedding and portraiture which are thriving on the coast,” Robert said.

For Robin he was able to learn about a broad range of techniques and the business side of becoming a photographer, but found his niche was in architecture and especially aerial photography with his talents recognised in several high calibre awards.

A highlight for him last year was taking out the AIPP National Canon “Photographer of the Year”—Silver Distinction and 1st Place—Gold Award for Architecture Industry for the International Photography Awards.

“Winning awards gives you confidence to keep working and keep going—a bit of feedback from peers really helps,” Robin said.

Since graduating, Robin has been building his portfolio while producing industrial and acrylic prints for businesses in Sydney and homes at the Sunshine Coast.

Robin is keen to move into architecture photography and to specialise in aerial photography.

LEFT Robin Riddle’s landscape photograph titled ‘Julia’.

ABOVE Karijini dust storm

BELLOW Robin in the field

NEW ENROL NOW

Introductory and diploma level photography courses run from our Nambour campus throughout the year and form part of the study requirements for Graphic Design and similar courses.

To enrol visit tafeeastcoast.edu.au or call us on 1300 656 188.

LEFT Robin Riddle’s landscape photograph titled ‘Julia’.
LOCAL LAND MANAGEMENT INSPIRES EAST TIMORESE STUDENTS

Students learn sustainability skills to improve life back home

East Timor is rich in natural resources but locals lack the skills needed to manage the land effectively, according to East Timorese student Juliao Da Costa.

Juliao is one of three East Timorese students studying a Diploma of Conservation and Land Management developing new skills to take home to improve life for him and his family.

It was a difficult decision and students Juliao, Augusta Soares and Joao Baretto all agreed the hardest part in coming to Australia last year in Winter was adjusting to the weather, the food and learning in English.

“It was a good thing we were prepared before we left for the challenges. For the first two months we were homesick, but then we overcame this,” Augusta said.

“So far we’ve learned so many things we can bring home and share with the people,” Juliao added.

“We don’t have irrigation systems there so we’re hoping we can start small and grow projects to be bigger,” Augusta said.

The issue of irrigation was a main focus for the students who saw this as an opportunity to support their developing country when they return later this year.

TAFE Queensland East Coast teacher Stuart Whitney said the three students did a great job researching and building clay pot irrigation technology which originated from Egypt.

“The clay pot system of irrigation consists of individual pots or a series of pots connected with plastic tubing and is easy to install, operate, and maintain,” he said.

“It’s a low energy solution using materials that are readily available in villages in East Timor.”

“If East Timor can send more students over here they will achieve economic development on a sustainable footing which is a real key to the future for all countries.”

Call our International Team on +61 7 54571052 for more information.

SHORT COURSE LONG CAREER

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WIN A2 PRINT VALUED AT $170

ROBIN RIDDLE’S AWARD WINNING PHOTO
SHARK BAY SALT

To enter and for T&C’s go to tafeeastcoast.edu.au/competition. Competition ends midnight 31 July 2015.
Brazilian cookery student shares his dreams

Since he was 14, Brazilian student chef and surf photographer Wilson Aguiar dreamed of living in Australia for a safer life with more waves and a clean environment.

“I wanted to give my daughter Lilja a better life here,” he said.

“It’s much safer here and there are a lot of good waves!”

“I like the clean environment—everyone here takes care of the water and there is such beautiful nature in Australia. Also it’s close to visit Fiji and Asia—a great mixture.”

Wilson has had a full career working as a marketing manager, in events and many other areas as well as being a surf photographer and said he’s now ready to do his own thing and follow his passion for cooking.

“My dream is to learn to cook properly because I LOVE to be in the kitchen cooking.

“At TAFE I’m learning a huge amount of things and can cook much faster than before.”

“I’m now learning the true foundations of cooking like how to prepare each type of dish, how long they take and what temperature and method to choose. It’s a great value, so I’m learning a lot.”

Despite his vast experience, Wilson’s goal in cooking is to incorporate his wife Paula’s art, his love of photography and cookery in a vegetarian venture, creating a small communal space with many things happening and all involved.

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Wilson’s goal in cooking is to incorporate his wife Paula’s art, his love of photography and cookery in a vegetarian venture, creating a small communal space with many things happening and all involved.

“Some people think being vegetarian is just eating tomatoes and lettuce, but when you start thinking of recipes like stroganoff, it makes you think about ways to make that vegetarian,” he said.

HOT CHOCOLATE SOUFFLE

INGREDIENTS

50ml Milk (full cream)
1ml Vanilla essence
25g Butter (unsalted)
40g Castor sugar
15g Plain flour
2 Eggs (free range)
10g Cocoa powder
30g Chocolate buttons (dark)

NOTE add 10g of castor sugar to 2x egg whites

METHOD

Butter and sugar the ramekins using upward brush strokes.

Preheat fan forced oven to 195°C.

Heat milk, chocolate and vanilla essence.

In a separate bowl beat the butter and sugar until pale in colour and then add the sifted flour and cocoa powder.

Add the heated milk and chocolate to the butter and flour mixture and return to the heat and beat with wooden spoon until it forms a roux, cool slightly and then add the egg yolks one at a time and mix in.

Whip the egg whites to a soft peak, then rain in the sugar and whip to a firm peak.

Fold meringue into the cooled chocolate mixture and pour mix into prepared ramekins.

Do not over fill, run your thumb around the rim of the ramekin so no mixture is touching the rim (this will help the soufflé rise evenly).

Bake immediately at 195°C for 10½ mins.

When cooked serve immediately, dust with icing sugar and serve with berry sauce, whipped cream or ice cream.

ENROL NOW

Cookery and hospitality courses with international offerings run at several locations with strong connections to industry and hands on experience in our restaurants.

Call us on 1300 656 188 or visit tafeeastcoast.edu.au for more information.

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ABOVE Wilson Aguiar [R] making chocolate soufflé with cookery teacher Mark Cartwright [L] PHOTOGRAPHY Brian Geritz

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ANYTHING’S POSSIBLE WITH A BIT OF HARD WORK

Sarah Harris shows how she took control of her fitness career.

Single mum Sarah Harris is studying a Diploma of Fitness and believes success doesn’t happen overnight, but with determination anything is possible.

With study commitments, nine regular Personal Training clients and a four year old, she knows what hard work is all about!

“I think everybody could study at TAFE, but people have so many excuses,” she said.

“You’d be amazed what you can achieve,” she added.

“It’s just a matter of taking one step at a time and balance is so important – you can’t do too much of one or the other in terms of work and life.”

Sarah said it has been extremely hard at times to juggle her daughter, work and study, but she was thinking of her future and realised that TAFE was a great option as getting a job doing something she loves was her main aim.

“TAFE students are highly regarded in this industry with two year courses run, not six week courses, so you’re properly trained,” she said.

“The teachers are fantastic – they’re so knowledgeable and make sure we know everything we need to with plenty of practical work experience outside of lectures too.”

Sarah has been in big demand by clients having started working as a Personal Trainer at SNAP Fitness. Sarah takes group classes, provides personal training and administration support while continuing to study a Diploma of Fitness at TAFE.

BLI BLI FARM SETS SCENE FOR COLLABORATIVE COURSE

A unique initiative with a focus on social inclusiveness has been running at the TAFE Queensland East Coast Bli Bli Community and Sustainability site for the past four years.

Those training in the Disability sector are gaining valuable experience while providing support to students with a disability from our Access and Equity course.

“We saw an opportunity to provide Certificate III and IV Disability students work experience through supporting students with a disability to achieve their education goals at the same time,” Michelle Knights, Teacher Disability Services TAFE Queensland East Coast said.

The initiative provides Access and Equity students with mentoring principles like appropriate communications and behaviours, values and skills and social and emotional growth while boosting self-esteem.

“We provide work practices to simplify language and concepts into manageable parts without dumbing it down and while always being respectful,” Michelle said.

Industry staff also provide further mentoring and modelling for the students of both groups providing information on current industry standards and practices.

“The Certificate III and IV Disability students are always heard commenting that they have learned so much more by attending the classes and developing real peer relationships with the Access students,” Michelle added.

This model of delivery provides the opportunity for teachers to address student work practices in action. It also enables the teachers to assess students in a simulated and supported workplace.

“The collaboration of the two teams and teachers is amazing, a practice that is truly student centred and industry focused,” Michelle said.
Busy book keeper saves time with Recognition of Prior Learning

Ruby Martens is a busy working mum running a book-keeping business from home while juggling the usual demands of daily life.

The Tax Practitioners Board had set a legislative requirement that to be a contracted book keeper or BAS Agent a Certificate IV in Accounting must be completed and there was a deadline to comply.

“I only had a matter of months to get properly qualified to be a registered BAS agent or I was at risk of penalty,” Ruby said.

“That’s when it was suggested [by TAFE] that I go through the RPL process.”

“Jo Charters [Ruby’s TAFE teacher] came out and we went through all the subjects for Certificate IV in accounting and I only had to do two subjects as I could prove competency and experience with the rest.”

“RPL is great. I love it. I would recommend it to anybody, especially if you already know the stuff. It’s much better than repeating it in class.”

“My teacher Jo Charters was very helpful and the whole RPL process was very informative. I never felt like I didn’t know what to do first—she sent all the information and explained the process before visiting. It was very easy and I didn’t have to chase up for anything.”

ABOUT RPL

Through the RPL process, your existing skills and knowledge will be assessed against current industry standards/qualifications. These current skills and knowledge may have been obtained through:

- work experience – paid or unpaid
- previous training that has not formally been recognised—employer based
- community and volunteer work
- other skills and knowledge obtained through life experience.

GET THE PAPER TO PROVE IT

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is a nationally recognised process which helps you gain credit towards a certificate or diploma based on the skills and experience you already have. You may have a qualification and not even know it.

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