

## Design and Technology Report – Tasmania 2009

### VAL Conference

A successful Vocational and Applied Learning (VAL) conference was held in late June. This was the first conference for Design and Technology to be held for some years. The venue was Launceston's Inveresk precinct and full use was made of the University's School of Architecture and Design and School of Visual and Performing Arts facilities. The Australian Technical College and Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery also provided their facilities. Highlights include a series of live cooking demonstrations from local chefs, Keynote speakers Amantha Imber (How to turbo-charge your creativity) and Kurt Seemann (Technacy education), workshops by School of Engineering and School of Architecture staff, workshops by Tasmanian educators, industry visits and school leader forums. About 230 people attended the conference, including delegates from a far away as Darwin.

### VAL Curriculum Officer position

In the wake of the Global Financial Crisis (GFC) the Tasmanian Department of Education has down-sized its curriculum team to a membership of four people. Curriculum support will no longer be afforded to specific curriculum areas. Curriculum Project Officer for Vocational and Applied Learning, Mr Tony Woodward, has accepted a position at the University of Tasmania as a Project Manager overseeing the co-location of TAFE course with the School of Art program at Hunter Street.

### Design and Technology Website

The DATTA Tasmania website has gone live: <http://www.projects4techteachers.com> This website contains a large number of project pages and lesson plans. It is intended to be a forum where teachers can share ideas and examples of student works.

### Scrap Pack Challenge 2010

A Scrap Pack Challenge has been organised for 2010 in conjunction with Forestry Tasmania, Tasfreight and VET Easy. Students design products from offcuts of Tasmanian native timber species available through Forestry Tasmania. Prize categories include:

- Best Individual Product (\$50)
- Group Challenge (\$100)
- Most Efficient Use of 25kg (\$200 School timber voucher)
- Best Use for Producing IE Product
- Chris Emmett Encouragement Award

Project website: <http://www.scarppackchallenge.com.au/home>

Scrap Pack order enquiries can be made by interstate schools to [murray.jessup@forestrytas.com.au](mailto:murray.jessup@forestrytas.com.au)

### I-E Products

The Inter High Enterprise (IE) Project, an online student enterprise that has been organised between three Tasmanian schools, had a successful year of operation. Students from the three schools make a limited range of products and sale are made using an online account system. The IE website can be visited at: <http://interhighenterprise.com/> Shop now for Christmas!

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Department of Education

Tasmania