

## Education news



### Tourism a highlight of careers tour

THE Glenelg and South Grampians Local Learning and Employment Network (LLEN) and the Portland and Heywood Careers Network held their annual Local Careers Information day last week.

A group of local career advisers, Marian Haselton – Bayview College, Suzanne Patterson - Portland Secondary College, Kerrie Smith – Heywood and District Secondary College, Sue Hoffman – Portland Bay Schools, together with Lilja Radley from Glenelg and Southern Grampians LLEN spent the day focusing on the tourism and hospitality industry and the local career opportunities available in Portland and Heywood.

The group spent the morning meeting with Carly Jordan (Glenelg Shire Council), Anita Rank (Committee for Portland) and Todd Knight (Portland Tourism Network) at the Portland Business Hub.

The group greatly appreciated the knowledge and insights they shared with the group and left with a better understanding of local industry, skills shortages, and the emerging tourism and hospitality industry in Portland and surrounds.

“It was great to meet some of the members from the local careers network, and to discuss the opportunities available within the shire now and in the foreseeable future. The industry is continuing to expand locally with more and more visitors each year and there are some exciting volunteer opportunities available to local youth who may be interested in a career in this area.” Ms Jordan, Glenelg Shire Council economic development and tourism coordinator said.

The group also enjoyed a visit to Quest Apartments where manager Terry Weissel shared her knowledge and personal experiences of her own career path and experience working in hospitality and took the group on a tour of the guest apartments and facilities.

Time was also spent time at the Richmond Henty Hotel Complex which provided an insight to the various career opportunities available within the different service areas and the career pathways and relevant training options available.

The group also visited the Tourist Information Centre, where they were provided with some background information regarding management of the centre and were pleasantly surprised to learn of the high number of visitors that come through the centre daily.

JO-ANNE O'Brien (second from left) from the Portland Visitor Information Centre gave Sue Hoffman (Portland Bay School), Lilja Radley (Glenelg and South Grampians Local Learning and Employment Network), Marian Haselton (Bayview College) Suzanne Patterson (Portland Secondary College) and Kerrie Smith (Heywood and District Secondary College) a tour of the centre as part of the Portland and Heywood Careers Network information day last week.

Picture: ELLY HATELEY 161108eh15