



Future Leaders of the industry

THIS MONTH WE REVISIT TRUDY CAMILLERI, MAXINE COLLIGAN AND JACK PARKINSON WHO DEMONSTRATED THEIR LEADERSHIP CAPABILITIES ON THE INDUSTRY PANEL AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE TAFE NSW CAMPBELLTOWN TRADE NIGHT LAST MONTH.

In an initiative to attract new talent to the industry, TAFE NSW's Campbelltown campus took the unprecedented step of setting up a panel of dynamic young individuals to reach out to their own generation to showcase the attractiveness of the automotive sector as a career of choice.

Trudy Camilleri, who featured in the September issue, reached out to the young women considering a career in automotive: "More and more we are seeing talented young women coming into the industry - the traditional male-dominated industry is rapidly becoming a thing of the past. I cannot emphasise enough what a great career choice this is." Trudy, who worked in her father's shop, Cool Custom Restorations in Leumeah and did her apprenticeship at Campbelltown TAFE, is now an Auto Body Repair Teacher at Sydney campus.

Maxine Colligan, who was recognised in the May issue, spoke about her experience with WorldSkills: "Winning the regionals and going on to compete at the nationals as a second-year apprentice was a great thrill. I just can't wait to get to Russia for the international event! Being able to train at the Glasurit Refinish Competence Centre has been a huge benefit." Maxine is now a third-year apprentice at Gemini Smash Repairs in Campbelltown and has an enormous workload related to WorldSkills in addition to her day job.

Jack Parkinson, who was inducted in October last year, spoke about the future of the industry: "The way I see it, the future is very much in the hands of the next generation and it's people such as Trudy and Maxine that will lead the way. The more events such as this, the more opportunity we have to reach the next wave of technicians." Jack has recently graduated from Griffith University in Queensland and is now Franchise Development Manager and Youth Program Leader at Fix Auto Australia.

It was absolutely fantastic to see three Future Leaders of the Industry do exactly what leaders do - take the initiative and put themselves "front

and centre" as role models for those who will follow in their footsteps. It was also great to see Troy Johns, IAG's Industry Risk and Governance Manager and Phil Nixon, IAG's Supply Chain Specialist, at the event to show their support.

Editor: I am confident that the founder of the Future Leaders of the Industry program will be thrilled by the way these young leaders continue to give back to the industry whilst still in the early stages of their careers.



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Maxine Colligan, Trudy Camilleri and Jack Parkinson.