



Participants at the first stop of their scavenger hunt

Gordonvale participants embark on Harmony Day scavenger hunt

STEPS Skills for Education and Employment (SEE) Program participants in Gordonvale celebrated Harmony Day with an engaging community scavenger hunt that blended language learning, local history and cultural connection.

Guided by a booklet of poetic clues, the class set out to explore some of Gordonvale's key landmarks, uncovering stories of the community and its people along the way.

Their journey began beneath the shady trees of a local park, where the participants gathered for a photo symbolising unity – a fitting start to Harmony Day. From there, the clues led them to the Gordonvale mill, where participants could choose to sketch the scene or write a short poem to reflect on how the mill has helped shape the Gordonvale community for generations.

At the old railway area, the class examined structures that once connected farmers, settlers and First Nations communities across the greater Cairns region. A stop at the post office prompted discussion about how letters can link people across borders, and one participant sent a postcard to the STEPS Cairns City site, sharing what makes STEPS Gordonvale so special.

The scavenger hunt wrapped up back at the STEPS Gordonvale site, where the class proudly listed all the countries and cultures represented in the group.

STEPS is proud to foster an inclusive community that celebrates everyone and their unique backgrounds, cultures and goals for the future. Our participants loved honouring Harmony Day through such fun, hands-on activities.

*STEP into a world
of opportunity*



Cassie Stanley



Explore new opportunities

Looking to build your reading, writing, numeracy, listening, speaking and digital skills, improve your English, or boost your confidence for work or study? The STEPS SEE Program is here to help.

Our free, government-funded training supports eligible participants and helps them develop essential skills, from maths and writing to using a computer.

Whether you're looking to take the next step in your career or know someone who could benefit, the SEE Program provides supportive learning to help you work towards your goals.

Apply today or refer a friend!

1300 131 965
stepsgroup.com.au/SEE

Welcome

Welcome to the latest edition of our STEPS SEE Program Newsletter!

In this edition, there's a mix of reflecting on our collective past and looking forward to an exciting future. Our cover story follows our Gordonvale participants on a scavenger hunt for Harmony Day, prompting them to explore their region's history and celebrate cultural connections. In Cairns City, participants honoured Anzac Day traditions and explored the significance of the soldiers' roles in Australian history.

Our Alice Springs participants looked to the future with their Lunar New Year celebrations, welcoming the Year of the Fire Horse and discovering their own Chinese zodiac signs. I'm also proud to share that we launched our new Hospitality course in Casuarina and Caloundra, bringing more employment training opportunities to these communities.

Across Queensland and the Northern Territory, we're supporting people as they develop the skills and mindset needed to reach their goals. I love hearing stories from our passionate trainers, detailing how participants are coming out of their shells, or reaching a milestone on their journey to employment, or simply ending the day with more confidence. No matter what they're working towards, they have our continuous support, and I love that STEPS forms part of their story.

Thank you for reading this edition of our STEPS SEE Program Newsletter.

Cassie Stanley

STEPS
Chief Executive Officer



Alice Springs participants with their spring rolls

A bright start to the Year of the Fire Horse

Our SEE Program participants in Alice Springs celebrated the Lunar New Year in style, with cultural learning experiences and engaging activities.

The participants learned about the significance of the Year of the Fire Horse and discovered their own Chinese zodiac animals, leading to thoughtful discussions about the traits connected to each sign.

The class watched videos of Lunar New Year celebrations and made spring rolls for the first time. They were amazed at how simple the recipe was and enjoyed the delicious results.

Over lunch, everyone shared their own cultural traditions and perspectives linked to animals, such as the Dreamtime stories of the Rainbow Serpent from local First Nations communities.

The day ended with the participants creating their own Chinese dragon finger puppets, and everyone took home leftover spring rolls to share with their families.

By using Lunar New Year as an overarching theme, the class were able to put a festive twist on their skill development and link classroom activities to real-world tasks, from measuring ingredients in the kitchen to practising their literacy by following safety procedures.

We hope the Year of the Fire Horse brings you the energy you need to reach your goals, just like our participants are doing every day through our SEE Program.



Louise – Palmerston

Participant profile

What was your main motivation for joining the SEE Program?

My main motivation for joining the STEPS SEE Program was my kids and wanting to skill up and do better for them.

What are some of your favourite parts of the SEE Program?

One of my favourite parts of the course has been meeting new people and making friends, and the supportive staff have been very good to me. I also enjoy the extra activities we get to do on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

What are some valuable lessons or skills you have learnt during your time in the SEE Program?

I feel I have learnt valuable skills, especially for using computers – that's something I have really improved on.

What are your professional goals?

My professional goal is to find meaningful and stable employment. To do this, I recently enrolled in the BSB30120 Certificate III in Business course.

What are your personal goals?

My personal goals are to be happy and healthy.

What advice would you give to someone who is thinking about joining the SEE Program?

Give it a fair go. It is a fantastic program and will enhance your life and make your goals easier to reach – you'll see that they're a bit closer than you might've thought.

Cairns participants honour Anzac Day traditions

Anzac Day is recognised nationwide with dawn services, marches, ceremonies and community events. In Cairns, our STEPS community honoured the Anzac Day traditions in their own way to pay respect to the fallen soldiers.

The SEE Program participants made and sold Anzac biscuits, with all proceeds going to STEPS Pathways Charity.

Participant Michael showed everyone how to make poppies from red paper, beads and pipe cleaners. While Michael describes himself as quite shy, his passion shone through as he taught his peers and he ended the lesson feeling quite confident.

The class also visited the Cairns War Memorial on the nearby esplanade to see the monuments and learn more about the Anzac soldiers and their role in the first world war.

The true Anzac spirit shone through in our weekly participant meeting, where we discussed the meaning of mateship, camaraderie and having the courage to strive for a better future for everyone.

The Ode of Remembrance was read aloud and the Last Post was played, followed by a minute of silence to remember those who sacrificed their lives in World War I and other conflicts around the world.

We are proud of our participants for showing the utmost respect for the Anzacs and using their lessons to learn more about their significance in Australian history and culture.



Participants at Cairns War Memorial



Michael making poppies

SEE Casuarina
Hospitality participant



Free hospitality course launches in Casuarina and Caloundra

STEPS has expanded our free, nationally recognised SIT20322 Certificate II in Hospitality course, launching in both Caloundra on the Sunshine Coast and Casuarina in Darwin.

Delivered through the SEE Program, the course gives jobseekers practical skills and confidence to step into hospitality roles in a range of venues. Participants will develop their customer service skills and learn safe food practices and workplace expectations, giving them job-ready experience.

STEPS CEO Cassie Stanley said the course creates new opportunities for people entering the workforce for the first time or changing career paths.

"There is strong demand in both of these regions for skilled hospitality staff," Cassie said.

"For many people, hospitality is a great entry point for employment. For some, it turns into a lifelong career that they love. We're proud to deliver training that not only builds technical skills, but also the professionalism and mindset that employers seek out."

To find out more or apply for our hospitality course, visit stepsgroup.com.au/hospitality.

What's your next STEP?

The STEPS SEE Program offers many ways for you to upskill and pursue your goals, whether you want to focus on writing and speaking for day-to-day life or explore a new career path.

Nationally accredited courses

- BSB30120 Certificate III in Business
- CHC33021 Certificate III in Individual Support
- SIT20322 Certificate II in Hospitality

Non-accredited courses

- Decked Out for career skills
- Five STEPS Housing Program for rental readiness
- Basic English Class for everyday language skills

Explore
our courses



Contact us

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