

# FOUNDATION BROKEN HILL

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A monthly newsletter for stakeholders

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## Rockt launch successful

One of our new projects for 2023 has lifted off. The new business is called Rockt.

It is an innovative app, a mobile platform that connects employers and job seekers in a fast and easy way. Rockt was launched with the help of Foundation Broken Hill.

It is different from other job apps because it allows users to create their own profiles, similar to social media platforms. This way, employers can showcase their work cultures and values, and job seekers can highlight their skills and experience without writing long cover letters.

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The Rockt recruitment app is LIVE!  
 Rockt - for Rapid Uplift

Download today via



*It's like Tinder, for jobs!*

### Diary Dates:

- 17-19 August Mundi Mundi Bash
- 26-27 August Outback Spiritual Festival
- 7-11 Sept Broken Heel Festival
- 12 September Board Meeting
- 14-16 Sept Silver City Show
- 10 October Board Meeting
- 25 Nov RDA Far West Business Awards night

## Record recipients for Training Grant

A record number of people has been allocated grants in the 2023 Foundation Broken Hill-Skillshare Training Program.

The Foundation doubled the amount of

funding for the program, making \$10,000 available with up to \$1,000 allocated to each successful applicant and broadened the promotion to attract people who were looking to gain or upgrade skills and qualifications in trade fields rather than only tertiary study.

A field of 16 applicants was reviewed by a selection panel of Foundation Deputy Chair Chris Dougherty, Directors Lindy Molesworth and Kevin Taylor, along with former Skillshare Manager Pam Clarke and Foundation CEO Travis Nadge and Admin Assistant Kirsty Murray.

Ultimately 10 people have been awarded \$1,000 grants in a good mix of trade apprenticeships, health and teaching.

The successful applicants were: Elle Yamomo (Health); Trent Farquharson (Cookery); Cooper Wielozynski (Education); Paris Ralph (Carpentry)

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Travis Nadge, Foundation Broken Hill CEO presenting Paris Ralph with her cheque

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Please remember the Foundation in your Will

## Rockt Launch (cont.)

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This is the ultimate app for tech-savvy job seekers who want to find their dream job fast and easily. It eliminates the hassle of sending applications via email or online platforms and lets you showcase your personality and passion.

The app is a game-changer for the job market, especially in rural areas where opportunities are scarce and access to technology is limited. Thanks to Foundation Broken Hill's interest free loan, Rockt was able to launch its app and reach thousands of users. Rockt is more than just an app, it's a community that empowers people to find their dream job.

Download Rockt today and start swiping your way to success! ■



*Rockt founder Paula Doran (photo supplied)*

## A word from Travis...

It has been very encouraging over the last 12 months to see the response to our interest free small business loan program. During and after the covid period it was very quiet with no approaches from small business for this program.

In the last year we have now approved six loans totalling around \$150,000.

The reasons behind these loans have varied from start-up support to expanding existing business offerings.

These local small businesses will pay back their loans over the next couple of years, allowing us to re-inject our project money back into other businesses locally, continuing this program indefinitely.

It has been encouraging to see this increased activity in small business locally and the positive approach these business owners have, not only to their own business but also to opportunities for business in Broken Hill.

You can read about some of these businesses in our previous newsletters as well as upcoming articles. ■



*Travis Nadge CEO  
Foundation Broken Hill*

## Big Sky Stories

Dinosaurs, puppet shows, building and of course stories were all a part of the school holiday fun at the Foundation Broken Hill supported business, Big Sky Stories. There has been an abundance of play, talk, creating, making, imagining and laughing throughout the past 2 weeks.

The shop has been abuzz with grandparents, aunts, carers, mums, dads, siblings and travellers.

Jane from Big Sky Stories said it has been a really big couple of weeks and it would not have been possible without the help of volunteers sharing their time, effort and skills. ■



## Training Grant (cont.)

*Continued from page 1*

Caitlan Fulham (Health); Alex Gray (Carpentry); Jack Stacey (Education); Cameron McBeth (Mechanical Trade); Samuel Smith (Boilermaker); and Charlie Roach (Boilermaker).

The age range of applicants was also broad—from 16 to 36.

These grants can be spent on requirements such as course fees, equipment, travel expenses, textbooks—anything that will help someone achieve their qualifications.

The Foundation Broken Hill-

Skillshare Training Grant was established in 2013 using income generated from funds endowed to the Foundation when Skillshare closed in 2012. By 2017 it was expanded to include support for financially disadvantaged school leavers seeking tertiary education as well as the initial concept of assisting local jobseekers or casual workers to develop new skills and qualifications to break into different career paths.

To date almost \$60,000 has been awarded through the program. ■



# News in Brief...

## New business “Petrichor Bar”

- ◆ A new business will soon open in the “Grand Guest House” building at 313 Argent St.
- ◆ “Petrichor Bar”, named after the pleasant smell that frequently accompanies the first rain after a long period of warm, dry weather, will be an intimate bar with a tangible artistic flavour.
- ◆ Owners Mr Neil Piggot and Dr Hannah Bertram hope to have the bar open by the end of August.

## Business Far West “Small Business Month”

- ◆ Look out for business activities during Small Business Month, being held throughout October.
- ◆ Woman in Small Business luncheon, a Tradies Breakfast and Business Panel Events will be held at the Civic Centre #smallbusiness

## RDA Far West “Business Awards”

- ◆ The RDA Far West Business Awards night will be held on 25 November.
- ◆ The Foundation is pleased to again sponsor the “Best New Business” award category.

# BH Science Fair: a huge hit !

Foundation Broken Hill supported the inaugural Broken Hill Science Fair, held in the Gary Radford pavilion at the Regional Events Centre on Sunday 30 April 2023.

The concept was enthusiastically welcomed by Foundation Broken Hill.

The aim of the fair was to expose children to a diverse range of scientific concepts. Nitro Nat’s “Crazy Chemistry Show”, Kris Messenger’s “Bugs Show”, and Professor Flint’s “Dinosaurs Down Under Show” were all enthusiastically received by audiences and SciFiBri’s “Fire Show” brought each session to a spectacular close.

Brian Haddy, Director of the event says feedback received from those who attended the Science Fair was overwhelmingly positive and that the event was a real hit with families. As soon as The Science Collective opened it’s ticket site, local residents enthusiastically began booking their tickets until the capacity limit of 600 was reached for

each of the two three-hour sessions. Children under 16 were admitted free.

The Science Collective is keen to return to Broken Hill on an annual basis with the weekend of 25-26 May 2024 in their sights. ■



Nitro Nat’s show was a huge hit

# Business Far West

The NSW Small Business Commissioner, Mr Chris Lamont visited Broken Hill on 26th July to meet with local business owners and discuss the challenges and opportunities facing the region. The event was organised by

Business Far West. Mr Lamont said he was impressed by the resilience and creativity of the local businesses, and offered his support and advice on how to access government services and programs. He also highlighted the importance of collaboration and advocacy among the business community, and encouraged them to share their feedback and concerns with his office. The event was well attended by representatives from various sectors, including tourism, construction, retail and education. Business Far West’s, Rosie Siemer, said she was grateful for the opportunity to host the commissioner and showcase the achievements and potential of the Far West businesses. She said the event was a valuable platform for networking and learning from each other, as well as from the commissioner’s expertise and insights. ■



Directors Michael McIvor and Rosie Siemer (centre) pictured with NSW Small Business Commissioner, Mr Chris Lamont (far right)

# Broken Hill Outback Spiritual Festival !

If you are looking for a unique and inspiring experience in the Australian outback, you might want to check out the Outback Spiritual Festival, happening on the 26th and 27th of August 2023 in Broken Hill.

This is a family– friendly event that offers a wide range of activities and workshops related to wellness, healing and spirituality. You can enjoy yoga, meditation, breathwork, empowerment coaching, psychic readings, paranormal investigation, and much more. There will be over 90 exhibitors from different fields and backgrounds, ready to share their knowledge and insights with you.

The Outback Spiritual Festival

is a rare opportunity to explore mind, body and spirit in a beautiful and serene setting.

The festival was created by local Broken Hill resident Jill Blackburn

who wanted to bring more awareness and accessibility to the healing and wellness options available in the outback. She believes that Broken Hill is a perfect place to host such an event, as it has a rich history, culture, and natural beauty. She also hopes that the festival will empower people to take charge of their own health and happiness, and discover new ways of living in harmony with themselves and others.

The festival is being held at the Broken Hill Outback Resort. You can book your tickets online at [www.outbackspiritualfestival.com.au](http://www.outbackspiritualfestival.com.au) where you will also find more details and timetables for the event.

This event is proudly sponsored by Foundation Broken Hill. ■



## Foundation Broken Hill: How it works...

Foundation Broken Hill facilitates employment opportunities and encourages social development in Broken Hill and the surrounding region.

Its core function is to help Broken Hill create sustainable alternative businesses to build our local economy.

The Foundation Board comprises a set of highly skilled people with diverse expertise, who give their time voluntarily for community benefit. We do this by:

**1. Raising capital funds...** through fundraising campaigns which seek donations from current and former Broken Hill residents, local businesses, broader industry and governments,

**2. Recognising contributions...** through a structured Friends of the Foundation pyramid at Platinum, Gold, Silver and Zinc levels, with opportunity for smaller once-only donations too,

**3. Investing the capital...** where your gift is held in perpetuity but generates interest to be used for approved projects—**or** an option where your gift is held in a **Project Fund** to be channelled directly into assessed projects at the discretion of the Board,

**4. Carefully assessing applications for funding support...** through a thorough process that includes review of documentation, business planning assessments, face-to-face discussion and site visits where relevant,

**5. Providing support...** in appropriate forms, which can include once-only small grants or larger interest-free loans repayable over a longer term with flexible sustainable payment plans and some 'breathing space' for new or emerging businesses, and

**6. Monitoring and reviewing...** businesses who have received support to identify whether additional assistance is required, including mentoring.

Foundation Broken Hill has been operating in the local community for more than 22 years and is now sustainable in its own right.

It needs support to grow the Capital and Project Funds so it can increase more meaningful contributions to the community. ■

This newsletter is published monthly by Foundation Broken Hill to inform stakeholders about activities of relevance to Broken Hill and the surrounding region. If you would like further information about articles included in the newsletter or ways in which you could support the Foundation, please contact our Chief Executive Officer Travis Nadge, on 08 80879985 or by email to [manager@foundationbh.org.au](mailto:manager@foundationbh.org.au). We would also welcome you to visit our offices at 164 Argent Street Broken Hill or use our office mobile on 0403 583 627. Our website is at [www.foundationbh.org.au](http://www.foundationbh.org.au).