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## Welcome to the second Duke of Ed E-News for 2010!

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award E-News is out quarterly. You are welcome to contribute to its content with stories about your experiences with The Duke of Ed.

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## Next Gold Award Ceremony for 2010

**26 November 2010** – Second ceremony for 2010 (date TBC).

To be eligible for the ceremony in November, please submit your completed Gold Award books to the State Award Office, Office for Youth, by 1 August 2010. Any Gold Award completions received after this date will be presented at the first ceremony in 2011.

## Other Events

**July 2010** (date TBC) – Gold Award Holders' Association Annual Networking Event

**23-23 October 2010** – Canoe SA Team Challenge

Don't forget the 2010 Canoe SA Team Paddle Challenge - Sat 23 & Sun 24 October. If you don't have the necessary equipment, don't let it stop you! Check our [equipment catalogue](#) – you can hire a canoe for only \$15 per day. 2 paddle kayaks are also available suitable for disabled Adventurers.

For more information contact Canoe SA on 8240 3294.

**October 2010** (date TBC) – Dukes Week in South Australia

The State Award Office is planning to promote and showcase The Award in South Australia during the Dukes Week in October 2010 and we'd love for you to be involved!

We'd love to hear from Licenced Operators who would like to showcase their organisation or current and previous participants who would be available to help out. please email the State Award Office to register your interest.

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## What's happening

### Inspirational Story

Dukes E-News is an opportunity for Award participants to showcase their achievement and inspire others. in this edition James Harris outlines his experience.



James Harris receiving his Gold Award on 4 December 2009

"My name is James and I am 26 years old. Last year, I was awarded the Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award for my work with community groups such as meals on wheels, as well as my ongoing participation in developmental programs such as aquatic fitness, transport training and Youth Getaway Camps.

These programs, paired with the support and structure of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, have empowered me with not only the skills and knowledge required to live more independently but the pride and confidence to face new challenges and obstacles with a positive attitude. My employer SA Group Enterprises Inc has endeavoured to build on these skills by diversifying my duties from production line packaging work up to spot welding.



This new lease on adventure has given me the drive to go skydiving, take a ride in both a helicopter and a small plane, go on a cruise around New Zealand and snorkel in the sinkholes near Mt Gambier. Plans to see more of the world are definitely on the cards and I

would like to try water sports for my next challenge.

Through completing the Award, I have also earned a sense of self worth amongst my family and friends and after travelling recently, I am sure my extensive work in the community programs has not only allowed me to be more personable but has also been advantageous in my abilities to converse and relate with people of all backgrounds and cultures. I serve on a committee called CARA (Community Accommodation and Respite Agency) which is currently working to create services for indigenous Australians living with disabilities in Port Pirie. "

James Harris, Gold Award Holder

## **Gold Award Ceremony**

**31 May 2010**



Gold Award Ceremony was held on Monday 31 May 2010 at Government House. The Ceremony was hosted by His Excellency Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce AC CSC RANR, Governor of South Australia, Patron of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award in South Australia.

22 Gold Awardees received their Awards at the Ceremony, supported by 150 guests. Several special guests - Kim Brislane, CEO of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award and the Hon Larry Anthony, National Chairman flew in from Sydney to attend the ceremony. The Minister for Youth, the Hon Grace Portolesi MP also attended the event.

Congratulations to the Gold Award Holders, to their families and Award Coordinators on this remarkable achievement!

The Office for Youth would encourage you to continue your involvement with the Award via the Award Ambassador's and the GAHA programs. Please contact us to discuss how you can be involved.

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### Coordinators Corner

## **Group Coordinator Training**

The first group coordinator training was successfully delivered on 10 May. Well done Steph for organising this session.

20 Award Coordinators participated in the group training, covering all aspects of the Award program, engaging in group activities and gaining valuable knowledge on how to support young people participating in the Duke of Ed. Here's what the Coordinators had to say:

"I'm really glad I came; I thought I knew most of the stuff but this training has really helped!"

"Thanks. The training was really good. Even though I know all of this stuff I was kept interested the whole time."

"My passion for The Award was waning but has now increased!"

Following the positive feedback to this initial Group Training, the State Award Office will organise regular group trainings in the future. Please email Emily Rozee ([Emily.Rozee@sa.gov.au](mailto:Emily.Rozee@sa.gov.au)) if you are interested in attending group coordinator training in the second half of 2010.

The State Award Office has updated all Award forms and a range of other resources. New forms are available [here](#).

## Online Record Book Training



Kelly Wood conducting the ORB Training

Two one-day training sessions for the Online Record Book were held on Tues 25 & Wed 26 May 2010.

26 Award Coordinators received hands-on information on how to use the new platform and discovered the benefits of running the Award online. We thank Kelly Wood, National Digital and Communications Coordinator from the National Award Office, who came to Adelaide to conduct the training sessions with Rufus Parkes.

About 350 participants in over 20 youth organisations are already using the Online Record Book in South Australia and we expect the numbers to grow quickly.

[Click here](#) to access the information on the benefits of using the Online Record Book as well as video trainings and user guides which are available online.

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## Exciting projects

### Award Ambassadors Program

Are you a current Bronze, Silver or Gold Award Participant? Or have you already achieved your Award? Do you feel strongly about the Award's impact on your life? Would you like to encourage other young people to exert their talents and distinguish themselves by participating in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award?

Or are you an Award Coordinator with outstanding Award participants who are able to assist you in inspiring other young people within your organisation to successfully complete their Awards?

if this sounds like you, you might be interested in becoming an Award Ambassador.

An Award Ambassador's role is critical to the Award Programme, and should not be taken lightly. However do not overlook the benefits associated with getting involved!

Please email Rachael Leverton ([Rachael.Leverton2@sa.gov.au](mailto:Rachael.Leverton2@sa.gov.au)) to register your interest in this exciting initiative.

### The Dukes Week is coming soon



Riverland Special School, Duke of Edinburgh's Award BBQ, October 2009

Following the successful Duke of Edinburgh's Award BBQ event held in October 2009, we are planning to stage this year's 'Dukes Week' in South Australia in October 2010 (dates TBC). All Award Coordinators will be receiving promotional materials in the next couple of months.

This is a great opportunity for both Award participants and Licenced Operators.

Participants - get involved and fulfil your service section of your Award by organising a fun activity for your school, club or organisation during the Dukes Week! Show everyone what

the Award is all about! For example, you could hold a fundraising event and raise proceeds for a charity of your choice!

So why not start thinking about the activities you could undertake as part of the Dukes Week this year!

Licensed Operators - the State Award Office would love to hear how you could be involved!

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## Our networks

### **The Scout Outdoor Centre and Anna Purna are proud supporters of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award**

As a current Award participant, you can receive a 10% discount off full priced merchandise relevant to your Award activity from The Scout Outdoor Centre and Anna Purna. Just bring your Award record book or a print out of your Online Record Book dashboard along with other ID such as your student card or driver's licence to receive the discount when making a purchase as a proof of your current involvement with the Award.

Check these documents for more details: [Scout Outdoor Centre](#) ; [Anna Purna](#) .

We thank the Scout Outdoor Centre and Anna Purna for their support and for more information on the Scouts' activities in SA check out their [web-site](#).

### **Toc H South Australia Inc**

Toc H SA is a Licensed Operator for the Award in South Australia. If your school, university or youth group are not Licensed Operators then you may consider registering for the Duke of Edinburgh through Toc H, where they will be able to provide you with support.

Toc H SA have also designed a Toc H Youth Volunteer program, primarily for Award participants who need assistance to complete the service section of their Award. For more information about Toc H South Australia and their Youth Volunteer program go to <http://www.tochsa.org> , check out their 'Vounteering' drop down menu, 'Duke of Ed' section.

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## Gold Award Holders Association

The Gold Award Holders' Association was formed in July 2009 with the aim to offer all Gold Award Holders an opportunity to continue making the most of their Award. All Gold Award Holders living in South Australia are welcomed to join the Association. Membership is free

and offers you a number of opportunities to reconnect with the Award.

## Mark Your Diaries

Mark Your Diaries for the upcoming yearly networking event for The Gold Award Holders in South Australia in July 2010. We have a very inspiring speaker in mind for you! More information to be sent soon!

## International Gold Event 2011

The information about the International Gold Event will be released by the National Office by end of this year. The State panel will be looking to nominate outstanding Gold Award Holders from South Australia. If you think this is of interest, remember you will need to demonstrate your ongoing involvement with The Award.

Consider volunteering for the Award! Contact the State Office for more information on volunteering opportunities such as the Award Ambassadors' Program and Dukes Week.

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### General information

## Welcome to Rachael Leverton and Emily Rozee



Emily and Rachael at the Gold Award Ceremony, 31 May 2010

While there have been some changes to the State Award Office over the past month, our commitment to the Award has not changed!

Rachael Leverton joined the State Office in the role of Senior Programs Officer in April 2010 and is looking after the overall delivery of the Award in South Australia.

Emily Rozee will temporarily replace Steph Ball in the role of the Program Officer. Dukes E-News caught up with Emily at the Gold Award Ceremony.

"I am very excited to be joining the South Australian Duke's Team. I started my Duke's journey many years ago completing my Bronze Award in year 8 and my Silver and Gold a few years ago. After school I studied Outdoor Recreation and worked for several years

coordinating youth and corporate camps that focused on experiential learning and development. Prior to joining Duke's I worked with the CREATE Foundation delivering extended empowerment programs for young people under the Guardianship of the Minister.

When I am not working I am busy training and competing in many forms of kayaking and cycling. I love the outdoors especially getting away and camping in remote areas – away from all the hustle and bustle of city life!"

Emily is competing in the 2010 Riverland Paddling Marathon on 14 June. if you are attending, look out for Emily and support her team!

## Equipment Gear for Hire

All outdoor equipment at the Duke of Ed's Magill store was updated mid last year and is available for hire for general public. Duke of Ed participants receive up to half price discount on all the equipment. If you are interested in hiring equipment or if you are interested in organising a trip with qualified and experienced expedition leaders, please contact our Equipment Officer, Michael McMillan on 0427 271 925.

The updated form is available [online](#).

## Youth Opportunities

### Social Networking Education and Awareness Campaign

Do you use social networking sites? Are you worried about your privacy or security online? Want to know more about your privacy settings and how to use them?The Office for Youth is currently running a social networking education and awareness campaign to raise awareness about the importance of your privacy and security online and we want to hear your views!

You can tell us what you think about social networking and the key issues for young people by:

- CALLING the Office for Youth's Info Line on Wednesday 16 June and Thursday 17 June between 4:00 pm – 11:00 pm on 8303 0961 or Toll Free 1800 188 158
- or
- VISITING the [Office for Youth Facebook page](#) and leaving a comment

You can also visit the [Office for Youth website](#) for a whole heap of information about looking after your security and privacy online.

## Youth Development and Support Program Grants

### Federal Office for Youth

Please be advised that the 2010-2011 funding round for the Youth Development and Support Program is now open.

The Youth Development and Support Program provides grants to support development opportunities for young people in Australia aged between 12 and 25 years.

This year there are two streams of funding:

Stream 1 offers grants of up to \$40,000 and is targeted at community-based organisations to provide opportunities for young people in their local community.

Stream 2 offers grants of up to \$70,000 and is open to national youth organisations operating in more than one jurisdiction, to provide opportunities for young people from across Australia to become involved in community-based activities, or to engage in initiatives that are across state borders through national youth organisations.

It is anticipated that the majority of the grants made as part of the Program will be around \$15,000. Organisations have up until Friday 9 July 2010 (5pm AEST) to apply for funding.

Information about the grants process, including guidelines and application form, are available at [www.youth.gov.au/ydsp.html](http://www.youth.gov.au/ydsp.html).

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## National Award news

### Clive Palmer Youth Development Initiative

The Duke of Ed is proud to announce the launch of the \$6m Clive Palmer Youth Development Initiative. The value of this donation is believed to be one of the largest donations to a youth program in Australian philanthropic history.

Professor Palmer, the donor behind this incredible initiative, said he chose to invest in The Award because of its significant track record in making a difference to young people's lives.

With a major focus on disadvantaged youth in remote and regional Australia particularly through greater development of the Online Record Book (ORB), the Initiative will deliver The Duke of Ed to all corners of the country.

Read more on <http://www.dukeofed.com.au/Clive-Palmer-Initiative.html>

### Get involved on Facebook and Twitter

If you are doing the Award, or you've done it, or if you're a volunteer or you want to volunteer, or if you want to get involved as a sponsor or supporter, then join **The Duke of Ed Australia on Facebook** and follow **@thedukeofed on Twitter!**

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## Around the world

### **Peter Cruddas Initiative - South Australian in the Top Ten**

David Speirs, a Gold Award Holder from South Australia, has been short-listed as part of the Peter Cruddas Social Innovation Initiative for his water project, Friends of the Lower Field River (FOLFR), which sees locals raising awareness of the importance of clean water.

David established the Friends of the Lower River group as part of his service component of the Gold Award, with several other locals who were passionate about preserving the river and ecosystem. The Friends of the Lower River is involved in long-term rehabilitation and replanting activities. David Speirs will be amongst the top ten Gold Award recipients selected worldwide to attend a showcase event to be held in London in June 2010, attended by Peter Cruddas and HRH The Earl of Wessex.

We wish David all the best!

[Click here](#) to read further.

### **Award World Magazine**

Check out the International Award World Magazine to get inspired by the young people's stories from around the world - check the [IAA website](#).

### **Promotional Video**

The new promotional video is brought to you by the International Award Authority (IAA). You can view the film: 'Transforming Lives and Communities' through the IAA YouTube channel at <http://www.youtube.com/Award1956> or on the [IAA website](#).

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*Duke of Edinburgh's Award in South Australia would like to acknowledge and thank our sponsors.*



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