

MEDIA RELEASE

9 November 2020

The Y introduces Jump Start automotive program for young people

Photo opportunity:

When: Tuesday 17th November between 1-2pm

What: Hands-on automotive education program for young people in session, with Mechanic, and Y staff members

Where: Barkly Square automotive workshop, Ballarat, 25-39 Barkly Street

The Y Ballarat is excited to announce that Jump Start, a new hands-on education program to support young people to gain automotive skills and experience has commenced.

Following two weeks of online sessions to prepare participants with the basics around the workshop layout, introduction to tools and occupational health and safety, the face to face program commenced on Tuesday 27th October.

Simon Thyer, Y Community Development and Ballarat Youth Crime Prevention Coordinator alongside local mechanic, Brendan Hewitt, will support young people to increase their confidence, skills, and knowledge in the automotive area. Current participants have been connected with the program through a variety of local community organisations, the Y Youth Hubs and other outreach programs.

“Jump Start gives young people in the wider Ballarat area the opportunity to use their passion in a positive way with a view towards building a career pathway. Some participants are not currently engaged in school, so Jump Start provides another educational opportunity,” explains Simon. “We’re really excited to be launching this program which is unique in Ballarat, in its structure, delivery and focus.”

The idea for Jump Start was born after consistent interest in the automotive area by a number of young people in local programs such as Ballarat Youth Crime Prevention’s MAST program. The MAST program supports young people to engage in positive social recreation activities and opportunities.

The Y’s belief ‘in the power of inspired young people’ will be in evidence during Jump Start sessions. The program has an emphasis on providing opportunities for involvement, skill development and empowerment.

The pilot program runs for 4 weeks, with 10 participants aged 14-18 years as part of the first intake. Following the pilot, work will commence to explore Jump Start continuing into the future.

THE Y BALLARAT

Barkly Square, 25-39 Barkly St, Ballarat 3350
PO Box 321, Ballarat, Vic, 3353

p: 03 4311 1500 **e:** ballarat@ymca.org.au **w:** ballarat.ymca.org.au **f:** BallaratYMCA



We believe in the power of
inspired young people

Jump Start has been made possible through generous grant funding from the Ballarat Foundation and partnerships with BGT and the Ballarat Youth Crime Prevention Program. BGT has made their automotive workshop available for the program.

About the Y

At the Y, we believe in the power of inspired young people. As a movement, we provide a wide range of programs and services in over 500 communities across Australia, including rural and remote communities. The Y is a community not-for-profit and the oldest youth organisation in the world. The Y Ballarat's services include: Children's Services (Early Years Services and OSHC), Recreation and Youth and Community Programs.

Across the country, each year the Y has over 29 million participations across Australia which include over 1 million participations in our youth specific programs and 9.84 million participations in our children's programs.

About the Ballarat Youth Crime Prevention Project

The Ballarat Youth Crime Prevention Project is funded by the Victorian Government's Community Crime Prevention Program and coordinated locally by Ballarat Community Health in partnership with a broad range of community organisation and government departments.

Contact

Larelle Kuczer
Youth & Community Impact Manager
The Y, Ballarat

P: (03) 4311 1521

M: 0477 377 242

E: larelle.kuczer@ymca.org.au

THE Y BALLARAT

Barkly Square, 25-39 Barkly St, Ballarat 3350
PO Box 321, Ballarat, Vic, 3353

p: 03 4311 1500 **e:** ballarat@ymca.org.au **w:** ballarat.ymca.org.au **f:** BallaratYMCA