

# apprenticeship and traineeship roles

## Billy Brodigan

### Certificate II in Automotive Services Technology at Peel Valley Machinery

Growing up on a farm means Year 10 student Billy Brodigan has been around a variety of vehicles and machinery from a young age.

"Getting involved in servicing and repairing them with my dad was where my interest in machinery and engines started," said Billy.

"So, I've known for quite a while that working with engines is the direction I want to head in my career".

Last year Billy completed a Certificate I Basic Automotive at TAFE as part of a Technical and Vocational Education and Training program.

"This experience really confirmed for me that I wanted to follow it up with further study, so this year I started a School Based Traineeship doing Certificate II in Automotive Service (Technology).

"I study at Narrabri TAFE one day a week while also working one day a week, and every day during the holidays with Peel Valley Machinery," said Billy.

"I really like the hands-on nature of my work at Peel Valley.

"It gives me the opportunity to immediately put into action what I am learning at TAFE.

"It's been great and all the staff there are really good at talking you through what they are doing and with teaching you.

"It's a fantastic opportunity for me

to be working with them.

"I feel that SBATs really are the best thing.

"It gives you a good taste of something while you're still at high school, and it helps make it clearer for you what you want to do when you graduate.

"Your SBAT studies can be used as a credit towards an apprenticeship, so it enables you to be a jump ahead in your training and studies when you finish high school".

Careers adviser Stephenie Blewitt said Billy was "really dedicated and a great example" of the invaluable experience SBATs offer students.

"For the host employer, it gives them the opportunity to get to know a potential future employee," added Ms Blewitt.



Year 10 WWHS student Bill Brodigan loves working with machinery and is completing a Certificate II in Automotive Services Technology at Peel Valley Machinery.



WWHS student Jacob Hopman is completing Certificate II in Engineering at Cotton Seed Distributors.

## Jacob Hopman

### Certificate II in Engineering at Cotton Seed Distributors

Year 12 student Jacob Hopman has been enjoying his School Based

Traineeship in Metal Fabrication with Cotton Seed Distributors since 2020.

He said he loves the practical side of his traineeship.

He also said he is really grateful for support he has received from everybody at CSD.

Before COVID restrictions, Jacob had been travelling to Tamworth TAFE regularly to learn the theory component that goes with his SBAT course.

Upon completing his HSC, Jacob will continue his CSD apprenticeship.

## Ally Stanfield

### Certificate III in Business at the National Australia Bank in Narrabri

Ally Stanfield's interest in business has been further enhanced through the School Based Traineeship she commenced in 2020. As a part of her Certificate III in Business Studies SBAT (Indigenous Identified), Ally works one day a week with the National

Australia Bank.

The theory component of her SBAT is studied online through the Australian College of Commerce and Management.

Ally has excelled and her hard work and dedication was rewarded with her being announced as a finalist in this year's Training Services Awards.

Ally has applied to the University of New England to study a Bachelor of Agribusiness next year.

## Acacia Bell

### Certificate III in Business Services at Narrabri Hospital

Year 11 student, Acacia Bell is thriving as she progresses with her School Based Traineeship, working at Narrabri Hospital as an administrative assistant (Indigenous Identified), and studying her Certificate III in Business Administration (Medical) through TAFE.

Like with most of WWHS' SBAT students, Acacia balances the workload along with school study.

Acacia explained that the theory component of her TAFE course is all done via computer.

"We have a teacher online with us every week as well as a whole range of people there online to help with whatever we might be needing help with," she said.

"I feel I'm really well supported by TAFE with my online learning.

"I do two hours every Thursday where I get to interact with my classmates.

"There are students from across rural NSW including Inverell, Moree and Tamworth.

"You definitely don't feel alone studying online."

Acacia explained that her interest in all things medical was ignited by having a cousin who is a nurse.

"I have always found her work interesting, so when my careers adviser,



LEFT: Acacia Bell is completing a Certificate III in Business Services at Narrabri Hospital. Acacia said her cousin, who works as a nurse, inspired her to pursue a career in health.

Ms Blewitt told me about this SBAT opportunity and I read up about it and I knew it would be something I'd enjoy and be interested in."

Acacia is the first student from Wee Waa to be offered a SBAT work placement at Narrabri Hospital.

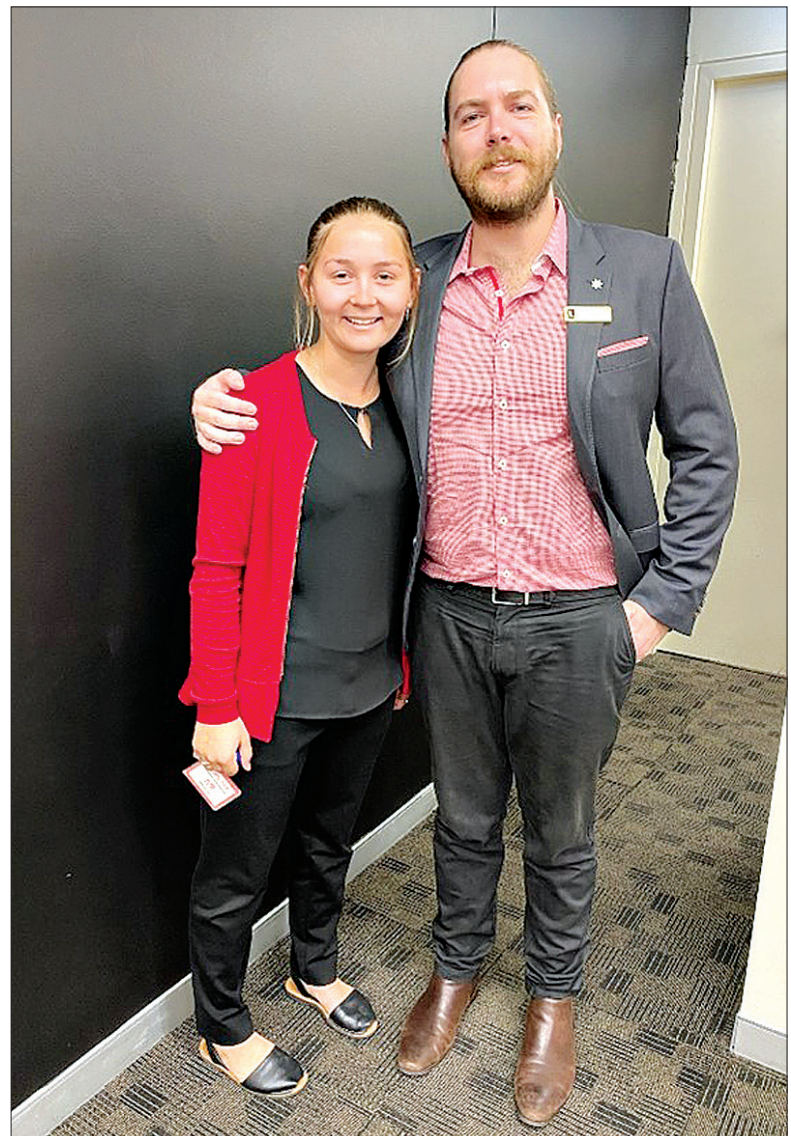
"Being at a slightly larger hospital is great," she said.

"There are so many different departments and I get to experience all of them, from diagnostics, the wards, the medical records department to the front office where we assist people as they come into the hospital.

"I really love working with the team at the hospital, they are supportive and welcoming.

"What I've come to quickly see is that to excel in this area, you must have really good communication and interpersonal skills.

"You can be dealing with people who are quite stressed and understandably anxious, so having the ability to stay calm and help them is important. You also have to be focused and have attention to detail because you're dealing with people's medical records and their health," she said.



Year 12 WWHS student Ally Stanfield and manager Tyrone Griffiths at the National Australia Bank in Narrabri.