

Students crack the code to prestigious Apple event

By Emma Macdonald
Education Editor

Canberra's coding credentials will have a strong showing at Apple's Worldwide Developers Conference on Monday. Of 350 students selected from across the world for a special scholarship to attend the conference in San Francisco – eight are Australian and three are from Canberra.

Two Canberra Grammar students Jaxon Kneipp and Damian Camilleri, and Narrabundah College student Shayan Rasaratnam, won spots after developing their own apps across a range of personal interests.

Jaxon and Damian, both in year 10, met in year 7 when they joined the Junior Code Cadet program at school.

With a number of competition wins already under their belts – GovHack, Young ICT Explorers, and Hackathon ACT – the pair last year began teaching themselves Swift, a programming language, to prepare for the Apple conference. They're already experienced app developers; Damian used his experience of learning to drive to develop My Driving Log – an easy way to keep an online track of hours for learners, and Jaxon created Helping Handbook, an app that enables students to log any hours of community service they do. All year 10 students at Canberra Grammar must complete 25 hours of community service and rely on paper log books.

Fittingly, Jaxon was able to count the time spent developing his app towards his community service requirements. He and



Canberra Grammar students Jaxon Kneipp and Damian Camilleri, and Narrabundah College's Shayan Rasaratnam. Photo: ROHAN THOMSON

Damian are well known at the school as tech-wizards who spend considerable time during their lunch breaks helping younger students crack the coding bug. They also mentor classmates.

Meanwhile, Shayan won his spot for E'picerie, an app that helps families with their grocery lists by allowing multiple users to add items to a list.

His work was inspired by his own family forgetting to buy the wholemeal bread he requested on three consecutive occasions.

For the past three months, Shayan has been teaching his programming skills to his younger sister.

The 27th worldwide developers conference will draw people from more than 70 countries.

More than 1000 Apple engineers will man 150 hands-on labs and provide code-level assistance to participants.

Students will attend the keynote opening address, which will be streamed live across the world, and will have access to a range of educational sessions and labs with established app developers and software engineers.

Labor lands top placing in both Canberra ballots

By Alexandra Back

It's the party campaigning for high-speed transport, but the Bullet Train for Australia party has drawn the last spot on the election ballot for Fenner.

The two Labor candidates took first place for both Canberra divisions.

The capital's election candidates had their place on the ballot sheet drawn on Friday, in a twice-randomised process performed by a blindfolded election staffer and a bingo number spinner.

In Canberra's southern electorate, Labor claimed the top spot with Gai Brodtmann, Greens' Patricia Cahill took second, bullet train candidate Christopher Bucknell third followed by Liberal Jessica Adelan-Langford.

In northern Fenner, sitting Labor MP Andrew Leigh has come out on top followed by independent Andrew Woodman, Liberal Robert Gunning, the Greens' Carly Saedi and the bullet train's Tim Bohm.

The electoral offices in Northbourne Avenue hosted the draw at noon on Friday, with only a candidate or two turning up and the rest sending representatives to take a quick snap of the order Velcroed to a board.

The Greens' Patricia Cahill was the only candidate available at the Canberra draw to take up the offer by Lynette London, the divisional returning officer, to rotate the metal bingo spinner. A blindfolded Siobhan Williams pulled wooden balls from the spinner as fellow divisional staff member Martha Gray read out their numbers.

Most party candidates had already announced their intention to run, bar the bullet train party's, which announced its intentions on Friday, five weeks into an eight-week federal election campaign.

The fast-train candidates want a high-speed rail precinct built between Exhibition Park and Mitchell, linking to Canberra Airport through a second stage of light rail.

Also new to the mix was independent



Greens candidate for Canberra Patricia Cahill with returning officer Lynette London and staff.

Andrew Woodman. His website describes him as a former high school teacher who recently changed careers. "I am acutely aware of the extent to which the people of Canberra and Australia live in a time of both immense potential and mediocrity; it's a particularly crucial moment given the nature of the challenges faced."

"Such a reality has compelled me to transition, not only into a career as a lawyer [I am currently in the last few weeks of completing a master's degree in juris doctor], but also into the political sphere."

Meanwhile, the ballot draw for the bellwether seat of Eden-Monaro also took place on Friday in Queanbeyan.

Labor candidate Mike Kelly, who was not present to watch the draw, was allocated last place on the ballot paper. Incumbent Liberal Member for Eden-Monaro Peter Hendy will appear at No. 5.

Labor candidate Mike Kelly, who was campaigning in Yass, said the order wouldn't be a "significant factor" to legitimate voters.

Dr Hendy said the draw was a "small but important part of democracy". Independent Daniel Grosmaire has first place in Eden-Monaro, followed by Christian Democratic Party's Ursula Bennet.

with Kimberley Le Lievre

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Praise for abuse funds focus

By Megan Gorrey

Former senator Natasha Stott Despoja has praised the ACT government's budget focus on preventive action to address the national family and domestic violence emergency.

The Barr government announced in Tuesday's budget Canberra households would pay an annual \$30 levy to help pay for its four-year, \$21 million funding package to tackle family and domestic violence.

The funds will be spread across a range of measures to centralise co-ordination of family and domestic violence services, train frontline staff, provide more resources to drug rehabilitation initiatives, fund perpetrator programs and bolster crisis support.

Ms Stott Despoja, now chairwoman of domestic violence group Our Watch, met with Chief Minister Andrew Barr on Friday as the territory signed up to the organisation.

The group advocates primary prevention focusing on underlying behaviours, attitudes and cultures that led to violence towards women and children in the community.

"You need a suite of reforms and a range of funding measures that go from an intervention and services provision to social support," Ms Stott Despoja said.



Former senator Natasha Stott Despoja chairs the domestic violence group Our Watch.

"What this budget recognises is that primary prevention end is increasingly important and we want, at some point, to change and resolve that services and intervention end so they don't have the same demand in future."

"But ... in the meantime we've got to make sure all those areas are supported and protected. But right at that primary prevention end, that's where we've got to start focusing."

Ms Stott Despoja said the new relationship between Our Watch and the government meant the ACT could benefit from the group's crossborder approach and leverage resources, research and support into preventing abuse against women and children.

She launched Australia's first national, evidence-based anti-domestic violence framework in Canberra late last year.

Elections ACT

ACT ELECTORAL COMMISSION
REGISTER OF POLITICAL PARTIES
Electoral Act 1992

Notice of application to register a political party

The ACT Electoral Commissioner has received the following application to register a political party:

Name of party:
Sustainable Australia (ACT)

Abbreviation of party name:
Sustainable Australia

Name and address of proposed registered officer:
John Haydon
Suite 15/20 Burlington Street
CROWS NEST NSW 2065

If you wish to object to the registration of this party, you are invited to lodge a written notice of objection with the Electoral Commissioner.

The notice should:

- set out the grounds of the objection;
- set out the name and address of the objector; and
- be signed by the objector.

Any notice of objection should be emailed to: elections@act.gov.au

or posted to:
ACT Electoral Commission
PO Box 272
CIVIC SQUARE ACT 2608

or be delivered to:
Level 9, Eclipse House
197 London Circuit, Civic Square
CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601

by close of business on 24 June 2016.

A copy of the application and the constitution of the party are available for public inspection at the office of the Commissioner between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm on business days. Objections will be made available to the proposed registered officer for comment.

For more information please telephone Rohan Spence on 6205 0224.
Rohan Spence
Delegate of the Electoral Commissioner

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