



WorldSkills New Zealand News

Welcome to our WorldSkills NZ June Newsletter.

The year is racing by, halfway through already! Winter is well and truly upon us although on the plus side at least the days are starting to get longer. Things are hotting up with our regional competitions, last month we hosted our first event in Northland, with more regional competitions set for July. Thanks for taking time out to check our highlights for the month, and keep warm.

Carl Rankin - General Manager



Northland Skills Competition results

Congratulations to our top three placegetters in the Northland Automotive Skills Competition: Shaydon Bennett (1st) Coby Kompton (2nd) and Sean McKay (3rd). Low temperatures and persistent rain did not dampen the Northland hospitality on the 29 May, where strong competition combined with positive learning experiences and decent catering made for a great day. Regional competitions are about participation and it was excellent to see such a good turnout. Gareth Edwards, Automotive Technology Skill Manager and Northland Regional Co-ordinator, along with his team of volunteers ran a fantastic event. A huge thankyou to Northtec for their support and for providing a great venue. We also send out our appreciation to Mike Wright on behalf of Repco Whangarei and Mark Castello on behalf of Napa Whangarei who generously provided prizes for first, second and third place-getters! Awesome!

Click here for [Northland Photos](#)



Regional Competitions

Waikato is the next region holding their competition at Wintec, Hamilton on Monday 19 July (Welding) and Saturday 24 July (Plumbing and Heating). After Waikato, comes Canterbury on Saturday 31 July.

These are free events and open to the public. Doors open at 9am. All welcome to visit and see the competitions in action. We would love to see you.

- [Waikato – 19 and 24 July](#)
- [Canterbury – 31 July](#)
- [Bay of Plenty – 28 August](#)
- [Wellington – 21 August](#)
- [Southland – May, June, July, September](#)

We are running the following competition categories this year:

- Aircraft Maintenance
- Automobile Technology
- Automotive Refinishing
- Graphic Design Technology
- Plumbing and Heating
- Welding.

If you are interested in competing or registering an employee - you can sign up here via our online [registration form](#).

[Learn more about the competitions](#)

National news

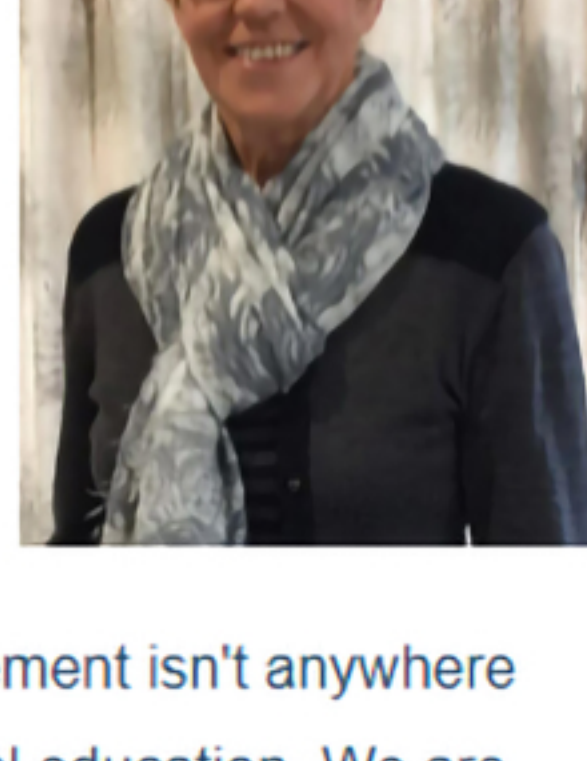
Planning is underway for our National Competition which will be held at **Ara Institute of Canterbury in Christchurch** towards the end of the year. Dates and details will be announced soon. The National Competition is quite a step up from the one day Regional competitions. They are held over two days with up to 16 hours of hands on practical tasks. The projects are designed to cover a wide range of essential skills and will really test the mettle of the participants. Our thanks to Ara Institute of Canterbury for hosting the 2021 WorldSkills New Zealand National Competition.

Spotlight on WorldSkills New Zealand Crew

We are very fortunate to have many passionate and dedicated people who support us in what we do. This month we would like to report on a couple of recent changes in the team. A coming and a going.

Welcome back Sally Gray, Operations Co-ordinator

Sally will be familiar to many, her involvement with WorldSkills goes back to 2004 when she first organised the Otago/Southland regional competitions as a volunteer. In 2008 she came on board as an employee as Events Co-ordinator and worked in this role until she retired in 2016. Now, after a five year hiatus, she is back!

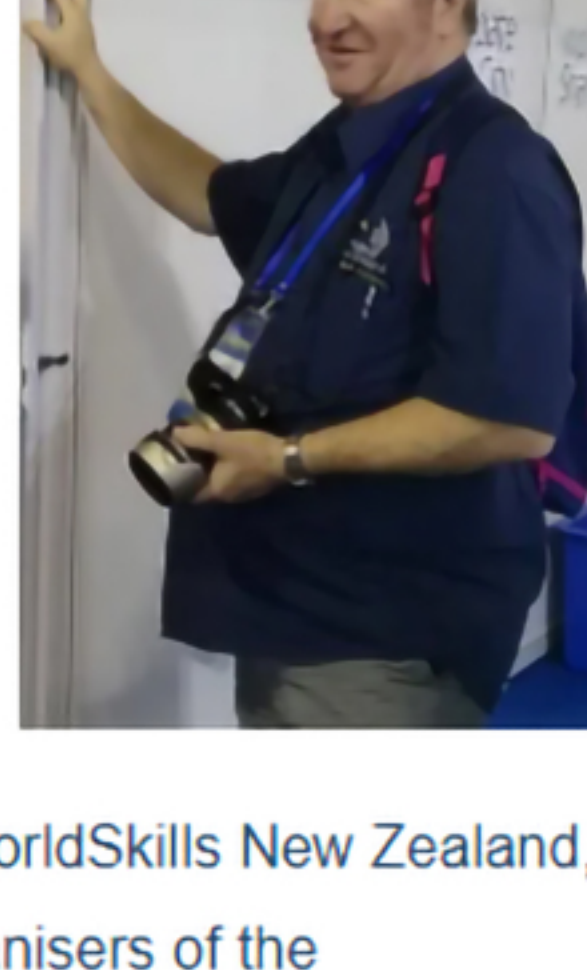


In April this year we managed to convince her that retirement isn't anywhere near as satisfying as supporting New Zealand vocational education. We are super pleased to announce that Sally has come back on board in a part time capacity to work within both the Competition Support and Management Teams.

In her roles she will be overseeing the organisation of regional and national competitions, as well as general support with WorldSkill New Zealand operations.

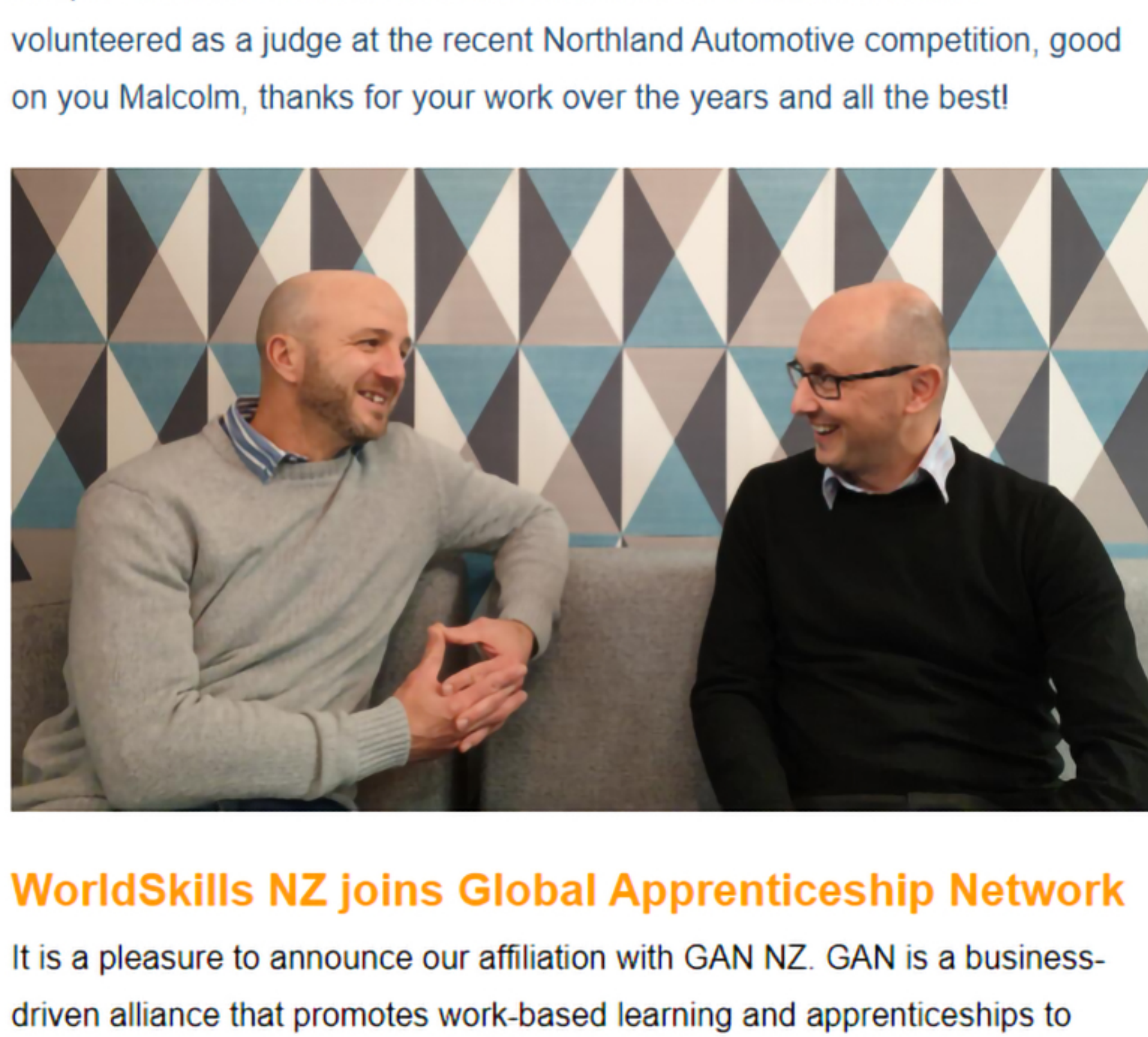
Retirement Announcement - Malcolm Whinham

In April this year Malcolm Whinham announced his retirement from active involvement in WorldSkills New Zealand. Malcolm has been involved with WorldSkills New Zealand and the WorldSkills International movement for over 20 years. Starting off as a judge for Automotive Technology at both regional and national level, then stepping into the National Skill Manager position for this skill.



In 2010 he was appointed the Technical Delegate for WorldSkills New Zealand, supporting the skill managers and working with the organisers of the international competition to ensure the New Zealand team was ready and well prepared. Malcolm has also been involved in a number of WorldSkills International committees and groups throughout his time.

Despite his recent retirement from WorldSkills New Zealand he still volunteered as a judge at the recent Northland Automotive competition, good on you Malcolm, thanks for your work over the years and all the best!



WorldSkills NZ joins Global Apprenticeship Network

It is a pleasure to announce our affiliation with GAN NZ. GAN is a business-driven alliance that promotes work-based learning and apprenticeships to bridge the gap between current workplace and future skills. Josh Williams, GAN New Zealand Country manager is a long-time advocate for work-based learning and apprenticeships in New Zealand.

The complementary focuses of WorldSkills New Zealand and GAN will help both of our organisations, and the people and industries we serve, gain greater momentum in the rich space of vocational training. Read more [here](#).

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