

# HISTORY OF PPTEU WOMEN



In the photo are first to third year apprentices in Plumbing, Mechanical Services and Sprinkler Fitting. (L-R) Kate, Helen, Kim, Joanne, Maree, Cassandra, Lisa, Louise, Lil, Kate, Lucy. Project Manager Annie Cowling.

## WOMEN IN PLUMBING PROGRAM (WIP)

Annie Cowling ran the Women in Plumbing program from 2009, the program aimed to:

- promote plumbing trades apprenticeships (Fire, Mechanical and Sanitary) to a diverse range of non traditional building trades workers
- assist potential applicants prepare for selection processes;
- address retention rates by:
  - developing work experience programs, construction site tours and other forms of pre apprenticeship/"try the trade" support;
  - developing numerous and literacy programs
  - developing a strong network of well trained and supported volunteer mentors (including existing experienced women, indigenous, NESB and mature age workers);
  - conducting industry inductions;
  - conducting ongoing monitoring of the program and its participants and providing feedback to the Department so that our experiences can be used as a model of practice for other sectors.



WIP Meeting August 19th 2010

## PPTEU WOMEN

After the WIP Program lost steam, the PPTEU was without a female focused program. Program Manager Rian Kelso kicked off the current PPTEU Women Program in 2022.

In the first year of this program we had many member and national meetings, worked alongside NAWIC, had an apprentice attend WIMDOI in Canberra, awarded a Male Ally, celebrated Breaking the Bias on site and have connected with many women in the Plumbing and Pipe Trades Industry.

We aim to embody all the goals from WIP and support women in their trade, and in their Union.