



# Media release for Goondiwindi Argus

Date: July 29

Gateway To Training (GTT)

Goondiwindi, St George, Roma, Warwick and Stanthorpe

GTT is a Winner

Very exciting news - GTT is the Darling Downs South West regional WINNER of the *Community Training Initiative of the Year* for the Qld Training Awards. This was announced at the Queensland Training Awards dinner in Gatton on Friday night. There to share the celebrations with GTT Executive Officer, Esme Cairns were staff members Kerry Gorrington, Warwick, Jessica Cairns Goondiwindi and GTT President Phil O'Shea.

Mrs Cairns said "the award recognises the success of GTT's SRG! program from 2015 to 2018 and I would like to acknowledge and thank all GTT staff who have previously or are continuing to contribute to our achievements. For a small grassroots community-based organisation based in rural Qld, we certainly punch well above our weight (to quote a previous mayor!) and make a positive difference for our clients and our communities. Well done to all!"

GTT was developed in response to a lack of training infrastructure in the Border Rivers region. With funding from the Queensland Government, GTT has successfully delivered its Steady Ready Go! Program to 255 participants from 2015 to 2018. In 2019 the program is continuing, with GTT funded to deliver 80 more places across Goondiwindi, St George and Warwick.

An excerpt from the letter to Esme telling of the win said "Congratulations on winning the Community Training Initiative of the Year category. With such a large pool of applicants this year, this win is a tribute to your commitment and passion for training.

GTT has now progressed to the QTA State Gala Dinner to be held in Brisbane on 14 September where an overall state winner for each category will be announced.



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