

Name:

Y E A R
9-10
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VIBE ACTIVITIES

Health Hero page 25



Name: Dr Paul Mills
Occupation: Anaesthetics Registrar Trainee
Location: Sunshine Coast

It will be the first public artwork dedicated to the Stolen Generations in South Australia. We'll incorporate a healing garden with bush medicines and herbs and a wall feature where members can contribute their stories.

"I'm also involved in art therapy healing groups – some of the groups are around why it happened from a historic and legal point of view. In my adult career, I've always worked with Stolen Generations because I've always thought they weren't getting the help they needed. After the Apology, I thought what's for us now?"

"I also want to honour all my friends and family that I've lost."

Christine will address the parliamentary tribunal on compensation for the Stolen Generations in August and continues to speak at public engagements to acknowledge, remember and heal the Stolen Generations.

For more information on the Stolen Generations, there are a number of websites to visit:

www.hreoc.gov.au,
stolengenerationstestimonies.com,
www.sgalliance.org.au

PAUL MILLS IS A DOCTOR WORKING AT THE NAMBOUR AND NOOSA HOSPITALS, BUT IN HIGH SCHOOL ALL HE WANTED TO DO WAS PLAY SPORT.

"When I was at high school I thought I was going to play sport, but my family and friends encouraged me to look at my options at university," he says.

"I went to university and studied for six years. After doing two years as a junior doctor I decided to specialise as an anaesthetist. My job is to put people to sleep so they can have an operation. I then look after them during the operation, wake them up, and take care of them immediately after."

Paul is influenced strongly by his Torres Strait Islander background, his family and friends, and says one of his main motivations for becoming a doctor was to contribute to closing the gap between the health of Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

"I think one of the hardest decisions you will ever make is deciding what you want to do. Working in health is very rewarding. You can travel, you

get to meet all types of Australians while making a difference," he says.

"When I was at university I had lots of support from family and friends, and also financial support from scholarships that helped with not only accommodation but textbooks, laptops and resources needed to study. University was a lot of hard work, but you make a lot of friends and it became a second home. There were also a lot of people in the same boat, with similar stories."

Paul says it's important for young people to believe in themselves, and recognise that they can do whatever they put their mind to.

"I come from a small island in the Torres Strait. If you really believe in yourself and want to become a doctor, you can too," Paul says.

Paul is one of a number of real-life *Health Heroes* supporting the Australian Government's *Health Heroes* campaign, which encourages Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander secondary school students to take up jobs in health. For more information on the hundreds of different health jobs available, and to see the stories of more *Health Heroes* visit: www.australia.gov.au/healthheroes

Dr Paul Mills is working at the Nambour and Noosa Hospitals. He is an Anaesthetics Registrar Trainee. He is part of the Australian Government's Health Heroes campaign.

www.australia.gov.au/healthheroes

READ *Health Hero* on page 25

ACTIVITY 1

BUILDING READING SKILLS



- skimming and scanning for information.
- reading headings, text boxes and pictures.
- reading for meaning.
- making connections between the text and your world.

There are three levels of comprehension questions:

Literal	The answer is located in one sentence in the text.
Inferred	You need to make links between sentences and graphics (such as illustrations, maps and tables) and what you already know.
Applied	The answer is in your background knowledge and what you already know or feel.

- 1** What did Dr Mills think he would do for a career when he was still in school?

(inferred)

Write your answer on the lines.

2 What may be some reasons that he was encouraged to think of medicine as a career? (inferred)



3 Explain some of the things that anaesthetists do in their job. (inferred)

4 What was his main motivation to become a doctor? (inferred)

5 What are some of the rewards of a career in health? (inferred)

6 List some of the support that Dr Mills received in university. (inferred)

7 What is the relationship between the photos and the main text? (inferred)

8 What is the overall purpose for writing this text?

(applied)



ACTIVITY 2

LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS – PUNCTUATION

1 Write these sentences correctly, correcting paragraphing and spelling errors and adding the missing punctuation.

when i was at university i had lots if support from family and freinds says
dr paul mills one of his main motivations for becomeing a doctor was to
contribute to closing the gap between the health of indigenous and
non indigenous australians

ACTIVITY 3

RESEARCH

1 Imagine you are Dr Paul Mills for a day.
Write a 300 word diary entry to retell what you did during the course of
your day.

Head to Australian Society of anaesthetists www.asa.org.au for more
information.