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NEWS RELEASE

Proserpine Mill 2019 apprenticeship applications open

The recruitment drive for Wilmar Sugar's next intake of apprentices has begun, with applications opening online this week (Monday 16 July).

Training Superintendent Scott Young said Wilmar was offering 32 first-year apprenticeships across its eight mills for the 2019 intake, with three of those at Proserpine Mill.

Proserpine local Sam Dinnie is a fourth-year apprentice fitter and turner at Proserpine Mill, and said he would recommend applying for an apprenticeship with Wilmar Sugar.

"You can't have a bad day here, as the team is always in high spirits, and always ready to answer your questions," Mr Dinnie said.

"As a fitting and turning apprentice, I get to do a bit of everything, from repairing broken pumps and machinery, to machining new parts, and also changing out parts such a conveyor rollers, heater tubes and fugal screens.

"This year I got to work on a turbine overhaul, which was great as I'd never seen the inside of a turbine before and learnt a lot about bearing clearances, nozzle plates and overspeeds.

"I get to work closely with the other trades to bring large projects together, and was even able to help the electricians out with setting up valves for a project earlier this year, since I had just completed my pneumatics course at TAFE."

In the second year of his apprenticeship, Mr Dinnie took the opportunity to join Proserpine Mill's Emergency Response Team, taking on additional safety training and on-site responsibilities.

With encouragement from a fellow Emergency Response Team member, he also joined the Proserpine district's team of volunteer auxiliary firefighters.

"Proserpine doesn't get enough calls to have full-time firefighters, so as volunteer firefighters, we're called upon to attend car crashes, house fires, and fire alarms, and also to assist in times of natural disasters," Mr Dinnie said.

“Wilmar is really good and allows us to leave work to respond to calls. I’ve also been able to use the skills I’ve learned as a firefighter to help me become an on-site first aider here at the mill.

“There are a lot of different opportunities available at the mill, and a lot of people to encourage you to take them up, which makes it a really great place to work.”

Wilmar Sugar Training Superintendent Scott Young said a range of apprenticeships would be available at Proserpine Mill next year.

“We have electrical, boiler making, and fitting and turning apprenticeships on offer,” he said.

Applications for Wilmar’s 2019 apprenticeships close 5 August 2018. Search ‘Wilmar Careers’ to apply online.

PHOTO:



CAPTION: Sam Dinnie is midway through the final year of his fitting and turning apprenticeship at Proserpine Mill.