WIIFM

Teaching a Trades Program has its own unique challenges. The Millwright Trade is very broad and diverse. A lot of concepts that are taught may only be required for their certification exam, they may never apply it in their work.

'My boss would never allow me to do it this way' – a common comment. We try to teach the best application for a situation, or teach important techniques to expand their knowledge and experience. They often do not appreciate it as they have not had a lot of broad experience in the field. Also, their employers have the work done in a certain way.

'We will never use this' — most young people lack the gift of experience. This, at the very least is an opportunity to explore topic you have not experienced.

I also take time to consider that these students are operating on a limited bandwidth – they are off work for a period of time, which can be financially stressful, there may be personal and family challenges, and often, they are not prepared for the amount of material we are sharing in a very short time.