

IT's a great career for women

By TARA CHEYNE

ANNA Barnard and Jessica Moran benefitted from the wisdom Bronwyn Fenech was happy to share on the IT industry on Monday at the Girls in Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) breakfast.

Ms Fenech, who runs a Rockhampton multimedia design business with clients from around the world, was one of eight female guest speakers from the IT industry.

She told the 80 girls, parents and teachers at Brothers Leagues Club there were many pathways into the industry, and the secret was to look for opportunities and grab them.

"If an opportunity arises, don't be scared to take it," Ms Fenech said.

"For me, an opportunity came up and I was willing to take the risk."

Ms Fenech said when she left school she thought she would do nursing, and before entering the IT industry she was a hairdresser and sold kebabs and vacuum cleaners.

Ms Fenech said that, while IT was the way of the future, traditional dealing with people would



PROFESSIONAL: Successful IT professional Bronwyn Fenech spoke at the Girls in ICT breakfast on Monday. Picture by TARA CROSER.

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not change.

The Cathedral College student Jessica, 15, said she had learned good communication was important and wanted to work in the multimedia design and online games business.

Anna, nine, from Bouldercombe State School, said she too would like to work in the game design industry.

The breakfast was an initiative of Central Queensland University and Education Queensland.



Calendar girls just IT

CLICK HERE: Brisbane IT manager Sonja Breeze strikes an *American Beauty* pose for the Screen Goddess IT Calendar.

AAP Image

A NEW calendar shows female IT professionals in a different light.

Rockhampton IT guru Bronwyn Fenech said the concept was to portray her peers in a fun and happy way that was not demeaning to women.

The 2006-2007 calendar, an initiative by technology guru Sonja Bernhardt, will be launched in August and features successful female IT professionals as characters from famous movie scenes.

"We're not just computer geeks," Ms Fenech said.

For more information on the calendar see www.itgoddess.info.



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