Students’ hard work gives disadvantaged youth bikes

By PETER DOUGLAS

STUDENTS from The Centre’s Greta Road campus aren’t afraid to roll up their sleeves.

As part of a community initiative, students have refurbished many second-hand bicycles which they have donated to disadvantaged Wangaratta youth.

General Interest Program co-ordinator, Jacqueline Hobbs, said the program has been a success.

“It is amazing how every aspect of the project came together, so easily once we floated the idea,” she said.

“We had the donation of bikes from the 15 Mile Creek School Campus, plus private contributions.”

Ms Hobbs said The Centre’s ‘Act Belong Commit’ program had joined on to fund the initiative.

“This program gives youth an opportunity to learn new and practical skills,” she said.

Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) students, Chase Jackson and Tom Hill, have committed to the project, out of school hours.

Wes Sampson from West End Bike Hub is their mentor, bringing much experience and expertise.

In addition to this support, The Centre’s Workplace Learning Department provided accessories for the bikes, including helmets, locks and lights.

Ms Hobbs said the success of this project has already received interest from other students, as well as expressions of further donations from the 15 Mile Creek Campus.