



Flashback to the start of the project as young apprentices get ready to start work as part of the Building Futures Program house renovation project at North Ipswich. PHOTO: ROB WILLIAMS

Home now starting to take shape

FOR the apprentices working on the Building Futures Program, learning from their stuff-ups is just as important as admiring their handy work.

The inside of the North Ipswich project home that 35 apprentices have been assigned to was a hive of activity this week, as electricians ran wiring through the ceiling and wall sheeting was put up in the bathrooms.

The new living area that has been created at the back of the 135-year-old home has been lined and is awaiting a few pieces of replacement flooring before it will start to really take shape.

From there, the apprentices will turn their attention to the huge back deck, with revised plans now resulting in that massive outdoor living space extending seven metres from the back of the Hill St house.

Painting apprentice Liam Courtney said excitement was building as everything finally

started to come together.

"This project has been a good start for all of us," he said.

"It has been great to come here and work alongside my school mates that I have known for 10 years of more. We are mates inside and outside the classroom, which has made it so much easier."

Liam's job of gap filling and painting the inside of the house is progressing well, but with one of the bedrooms in the front of the home finished, there is still plenty to do.

"I have already learned a lot on the job. This environment certainly gives us the opportunity to see what it is really like to work on a real house.

"Like Jamie (Robinson, foreman) says, it's a place where you really need to learn from your mistakes.

"Jamie and Clint (Halliday, supervisor) have been a great help to us along the way."



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