

Renovated house gets special number



THE house that is being renovated by local school-based apprentices in Sadlier's Crossing will have a very cool addition thanks to the efforts of a local artist.

Helen Vere wanted to do something special for the house, and spent many hours making a piece of art that will proudly sit at the front of the property when it is completed, hopefully by the end of the year.

The partnership between Apprenticeships Queensland and TAFE Queensland, the home in Herbert Street in Sadlier's Crossing is currently undergoing a massive renovation, with work progressing well.

The new home is currently a three-bedroom, one-bathroom home (above). On completion, it will have two levels and will have an extra three bedrooms downstairs

along with a big rumpus room, and the project is on track to be finished by the end of the year.

Fourteen school-based apprentices are out of the classroom and are learning all about their trade which many hope will lead them straight into a full-time job when they graduate.

In total 54 students will get real time experience on the project.

A radiographer by trade, Helen loves to do art in her spare time, and was inspired by 1930s' styles for the piece. It was her friend Helene Shepherd, a real estate agent involved in the sale of the first home to be involved in the project, that suggested she do some work for the renovation.

"I've been friends with Helene for a long time,



The house as it looked before the renovation (left) and the new plaque (above)

we often do yoga together, and she asked me if I would be keen to be involved in this project," Helen said. "She knows I like to work with glass and I thought why not"

"I believe the house was built in 1935, and that was the era of 'art deco'. It was a time where new materials were being developed, lots more machine-made things were coming out, with less being handmade. It was a time for rectangular patterns, and a time a of huge changed

"I knew about that era from general knowledge, and I was starting to think of what I could do. So, I started to research lots of fonts from the time, and found the Chevron pattern, which is typical of the 1930s'."

Helen presented the plaque to General Manager of Apprenticeships Queensland Paul Hillberg, and she believes that it ties in perfectly with the age and style of the home.

"It's the sort of thing you'd expect to see in a house of this age. I came and sat out front one day, and this just seemed appropriate," she added.

"It's going to go somewhere on the house, I'm not sure where yet. I have seen the colour scheme that is planned for the renovation, and it's nice to know that something I did is going to

be here for many years to come.

"The windows in this house are fantastic, and there are many house's like it in Ipswich, that's one of the things I love about this city. We haven't exploited our older homes, and there is such untapped potential to showcase these homes to the rest of the nation. I myself live in a home that was built in 1912, I love older homes."

Helen says that older homes are perfect for the Ipswich climate and that the benefits far outweigh the money you have to spend on the upkeep of an older house.

"There's definitely ongoing upkeep when you live an older home, but the benefits far outweigh that fact, for example they were built for this climate.

"We rarely have the air con on at home, it's so pleasant, having air come through the veranda. If you're smart and plant trees for some shade, it's even better.

"I can see the potential in what is happening with this house in Herbert Street, I really think it is going to be fantastic when it is finished."

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