



Jamie excited about project

THE new home under the Building Futures project is fast taking shape utilising school based apprentices from all over Ipswich.

For builder Jamie Robinson who supervises the students working on the house, it's a satisfying feeling knowing that lives are being changed.

In a partnership between Apprenticeships Queensland and TAFE Queensland, the home in Herbert Street in Sadliers Crossing will undergo a huge renovation, and work has been underway for several weeks now.

The new home is currently a three-bedroom, one-bathroom home.

On completion, it will have two levels and will have an extra three bedrooms downstairs along with a big rumpus room.

Fourteen school based apprentices are out of the classroom and under Jamie's guidance are learning their trade which most hope will lead to a full-time job when they finish school.

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

"It will be a very practical experience for

them working on this house, very similar to what they did last time in North Ipswich, but on a grander scale," Jamie said.

"This project will involve things like concreting, framework, bathrooms, cladding, and landscaping.

"Some of the students from last year have scored full time apprenticeships, it's nice to be part of something like that, you're changing lives.

"It was very satisfying to see the last project go the way it did.

"The boys changed a lot over the life of the renovation, and that was the rewarding part. They liked it, and we made it a fun place for them."

It is believed the house was originally built in 1935, and being so close to the Ipswich CBD along with the fast-growing commercial suburb of West Ipswich, the house will be an attractive prospect for buyers when it is completed.

"This house is in much better condition than the last one, I'm excited about what's going to happen here," Jamie said.

"Painters, carpenters, plumbers, roofers, concreters...they are all needed on this project and the students will get lots of quality experience that will set them up for a big future.

"I'm confident it will be done by the end of the year, we have two whole semesters with the trainees to get the work done."

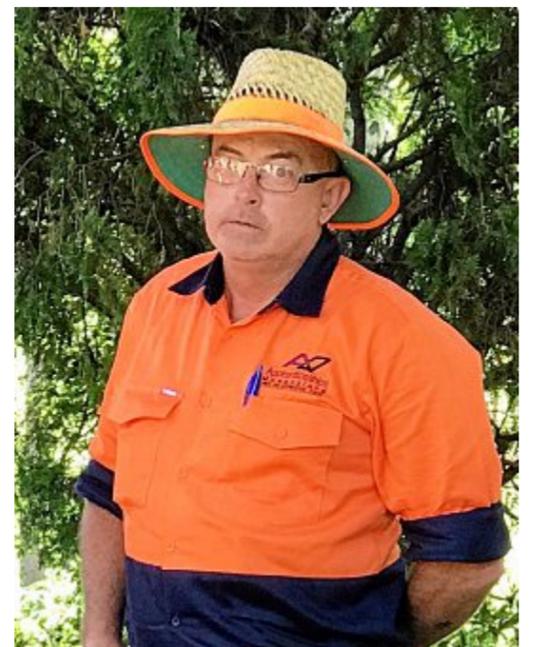
Jamie isn't one to show his excitement on the outside, as anyone who's worked with him will agree, but he did give a sly smile when he admitted how he can't wait to see the end product.

"On a scale of one to ten I'm about 9.5 on the excitement scale.

"It's going to be great to see the house when its finished with all the extra bedrooms, the landscaping and the interior.

"It's always good go to know that you had a hand in something that will stand the test of time"

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