

Sue to be the driving force for L2P program



BY CAITLIN SARTORI
csartori@nedia.com.au

SUPPORTING those already involved in the program and recruiting more volunteers will be on the agenda for newly appointed Wangaratta L2P program coordinator Sue Watts.

Facilitated by North East Support and Action for Youth (NESAY), Ms Watts will call on her nine years of experience with the not-for-profit organisation after recently starting her new role.

An initiative of VicRoads, L2P is funded by the TAC and is delivered in the Wangaratta region by NESAY in partnership with the Rural City of Wangaratta council.

It gives young people between the ages of 16 and 20 the opportunity to gain the 120 hours behind the wheel required to sit a probationary licence test.

"I will be getting to know the mentors and mentees and making sure they feel that they're being supported," Ms Watts said.

"I hope to be an all-round role model and support for the program which includes making matches between mentors and new mentees, ensuring they have something in common to build a professional relationship."

There are about 20 learner drivers currently enrolled with the program and it has helped dozens of learner drivers obtain their probationary

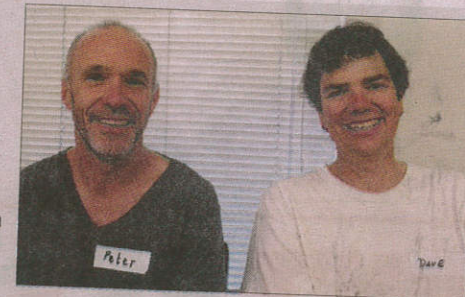


DRIVING FORCE: Sue Watts will call on her nine years of experience with NESAY in her new role as Wangaratta L2P program coordinator. PHOTO: Emma Hillier



A MEET and greet afternoon tea for the Wangaratta L2P program mentors and mentees with newly appointed coordinator Sue Watts was held at NESAY last week.

Among those in attendance were Shari Artley and Merylyn Dews (left), and Peter Mills and Dave Reynolds (right).



licence in its seven years being run at Wangaratta.

"Transport is a big thing in the country, especially for those living out of town," she said.

"Young people are relying on public transport at times

or they don't have the support to get their hours whether it's because their parents are at work full time or they don't have the people around them to lend that support.

"There can be a multitude of things that without the pro-

gram, young people wouldn't be able to get their hours.

"Some young people can be with the program for 12 months to two years, a lot don't have access to a car at all.

"If there's anyone interested in volunteering, I'd love

for them to give me a ring and I can introduce them to the program, they can hear what it is like and hear some more information about it."

Ms Watts can be contacted at NESAY by phoning 5720 2201.