

# PCYC expands services

ASHLEIGH Hamilton now has even more good reasons to hang out with the boys and girls in blue.

Ms Hamilton, 16, of Tweed Heads has been studying hospitality for two years, part of which she is completing at the Tweed Heads Police and Community Youth Club.

Following a \$1.7 million extension to the PCYC more Tweed teenagers can now enjoy the improved facilities.

PCYC Manager Mark Madden said new facilities included band practice facilities, games rooms and computer rooms.

"Previously we only had one multipurpose room used for all activities," Mr Madden said.

"The facilities were outdated and the roof leaked every time it rained."

The new extension and existing facilities will now cater for a wider range of activities and youth events.

The PCYC was presented with a \$3000 grant yesterday from Tweed Training and Enterprise Company (TTEC) for the purchase of three computers and a printer for their education facilities.

Richard Kemp, Chair of TTEC said the new computer equipment was available for use by young people aged 14 to 16



□ ASHLEIGH Hamilton with Richard Kemp, chairman of the Tweed Training and Enterprise Company, and Mark Madden, manager of the Tweed Police and Community Youth Club. D100670

years in the Partnership for Learning program.

"The program caters for young people who have dropped out of school or those who are experiencing difficulties in mainstream schooling," Mr Kemp said.

Ms Hamilton said it was good to be focusing on her education again.

"It's good to be able to come

here because it's so close to home," Ms Hamilton said.

"I really feel like I am learning something from it."

According to PCYC Manager Mark Madden, youth research showed a need for more activities for our young community members and better facilities for further education.

"For young people under 18

years of age there is a lack of entertainment.

"We hope to give kids more creative outlets."

"This is a way to connect them back to education and training."

The official opening of the extension is on the 19th of August. For information on registration fees and other activities contact your local PCYC.