

# NEWS RELEASE



**The Hon. Graham West MP**  
Minister for Juvenile Justice  
Minister for Youth  
Minister for Volunteering  
Member for Campbelltown

Tuesday 27 October 2008

## CLAYMORE RESIDENT WINS GRANT FOR YOUTH PROJECTS

NSW Minister for Youth, Graham West, and Member for Camden, Geoff Corrigan, today awarded a \$5,500 grant to a young Claymore resident, enabling her to develop and implement her own youth project.

Amie Robertson will use the funding to run a 10-week program called *Give a Girl a Spanner*. The program is aimed at young girls in the local area and is designed to develop skills in home maintenance, car maintenance and carpentry.

Through acquiring these skills, Ms Robertson proposed, the young women will learn to become more independent.

Mr Corrigan commended Ms Robertson for *Give a Girl a Spanner*.

"Home and car maintenance, including the correct use of tools such as drills and hammers, and knowing how to change a tyre, are important skills for all people," Mr Corrigan said.

"14 groups across NSW have won grants totalling \$60,000 under the Government's Youth Participation Grants Program.

"This program gives young people opportunities and support, allowing them to make a positive contribution to their communities," Mr Corrigan added.

Mr West said the Youth Participation Grants Program is managed by the Youth Action and Policy Association (YAPA), the peak community organisation representing the interest of young people and youth services in NSW

"In keeping with the theme of genuine youth participation, at least half of the selection panel which judges the applications must be young people," Mr West said.

"Amie Robertson is to be congratulated for her *Give a Girl a Spanner* proposal, which will not only teach young women vital skills, but will give them an opportunity to develop a new social network in a safe environment.

"By creating and taking part in projects such as this, young people gain invaluable skills in communication, leadership, problem-solving, project management and team work.

"Their work also brings attention to the voice of young people and allows young people to build stronger connections in their communities," Mr West said.

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