

Grants may begin Defence careers

A LOVE of bikes and a passion for mechanics appear to have set a Genesis Christian College year 11 student on the road to an air force career.

Sam Patterson and fellow Genesis student Robert Holman last month won Defence Technical Scholarships from the Australian Defence Force worth \$2000 and \$3000 respectively.

The money will go towards their school studies with no obligation to join the Defence Force afterwards.

Sam said he enjoyed designing and building things in school and outside.

Part of his application read: "I am an avid bike rider of both mountain and BMX bikes and enjoy learning the mechanics of the bikes, learning my own repairs and maintenance."

Defence jobs run in the family for the Pattersons, and Sam has a brother-in-law in the RAAF and cousin in the US army who has served in Iraq.

He is keen to follow his brother-in-law into the air force.

Current year 10 and 11 students have until August 14 to apply for 2010 scholarships.



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■ **FORCE IS WITH THEM:** Robert Holman and Samuel Patterson.