

Students learn the secret to a good cook-up

By SIMONE KERWIN

IT was a case of sharing skills, supporting a cause and bridging the generation gap when Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning students from The Centre joined Inner Wheel members for an old-fashioned 'cook-up' last week.

Stemming from Community Food Forum discussions about the need to pass on cooking skills to young people, the arrangement will see 25 VCAL students take turns in joining Inner Wheel members each month in preparing meals for the Wangaratta Carevan.

Inner Wheel regularly conducts the cook-ups, using food donated by local businesses, to ensure the Carevan can continue providing wholesome meals to those in need around Wangaratta.

Patti Stafford from Inner Wheel has recently been involved with the Community Food Forum, an initiative



SHARING SKILLS: Tracey Wearne, Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) teacher at The Centre, Inner Wheel's Patti Stafford and Brenda Joyce, and VCAL students Chelsea Verwey and Taylah Davidson took part in a recent 'cook-up' for the Wangaratta Carevan. PHOTO: Luke Plummer

aimed at efficiently using local food resources, and among her suggestions was passing on and developing quickly disappearing skills around food preparation to younger generations.

She said working with The Centre was an ideal avenue to

do this, and she was "absolutely rapt" with last week's first session, and the students' enthusiasm for their tasks.

"They prepared some veggies for us and were very involved in the tuna bake and frittata we made," Mrs Stafford said.

"They were just so good, and went from go to whoa.

"I think they enjoyed the atmosphere of it, too, laughing and joking and watching us put in a little bit of this and a little bit of that.

"They were just wonderful, they just jumped in, and

I couldn't praise them up enough.

"I think there's a lot of scope for continuing this into the future."

She said she would recommend a similar program to other local community groups.

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