

Ashley finds a way to study and start work on his chosen career

By **BIANCA BOX**
EDUCATION

ASHLEY Shaw, from Chanel College in Gladstone, has the best of both worlds this year, with big plans for 2010.

He is currently studying in Year 12 and two weeks ago decided to jump straight into his future with a school-based apprenticeship with **JJ Richards** in Gladstone.

Locke McGaw, branch manager of **JJ Richards**, is excited to have Ashley on board, as he will be the first apprentice for the company in this region.

Ashley will be completing a Certificate III in Automotive Mechanical Technology Heavy Vehicle Road Transport and will be studying four days at school and working one day a week.

Work experience completed by Ashley over the school holidays allowed him to get his head around what he wanted to do and he now understands that at the end of Year 12 working at **JJ Richards**, or in that field, will be his career choice.

School-based apprenticeships allow students to gain qualifications while finishing their secondary study. Employers also benefit from work experience and school-based apprenticeships.

Because of the flexibility, they are able to have a young mind to train and it provides a viable option if the business doesn't require a full-time trainee.

Ashley will continue mixing his on-the-job training and schooling through 2010.



GOOD MIX: ICMA's Mark Vincent with Chanel's Ashley Shaw and Locke McGaw, branch manager JJ Richards Gladstone. Picture: SUBMITTED.