## Dismantle Youth Project – a huge success!

Shire of Donnybrook Balingup 20 September 2023 (amended 26 September 2023)



## Have you heard of Dismantle's BikeRescue program?

Recently, 11 lucky students from Donnybrook District High School (DDHS) aged 13-14 were part of the three-day BikeRescue program run by Dismantle. BikeRescue is a dynamic youth development program that uses hands-on skill-building to engage and mentor young people in need of support. The program builds knowledge, social skills, confidence and teamwork through various mechanical and mentoring activities.

The students from DDHS completely dismantled, sanded, repaired, painted and rebuilt old mountain bikes, saving them from the waste pile. Their mentors from Dismantle, Zach and Brad (dubbed 'bike doctors'), said they've never worked with such a keen and efficient group and the kids were some of the most impressive they've seen.











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The students now get to take home their self-built and designed bikes along with all the skills they have learned along the way. The group celebrated their completion of the course today with a pizza lunch at the Pump Track Building, and then the 'new' bikes were taken out onto the pump track to test them out. Many thanks were passed on from the students and their teachers, for three days of incredible fun and learning.



At present, BikeRescue has helped to reach out and support over 400 young people each year, with 1,000+ bikes recycled each year. Over 110 program partners include schools, youth centres, and other peak bodies. If you would like to get involved, you can visit the Dismantle website here and learn more.



Community Engagement Officers at the Shire are thrilled with the success of the program and plan to embark on many projects with and for the young people of the Shire.

This project was possible thanks to the \$10,000 grant provided by the Department of Local Government, Sports and Cultural Industries. To learn more about grants opportunities via the DLGSCI, visit their website today.



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