



Local mechanic Kevin Warland will donate three hours of work at the inaugural Sids and Kids Act annual Tradies Galore fundraising auction tonight. Photo: Ben Hope

Tradies under the hammer

Winning bids raise money for charity

By Ben Hope

IF you're looking for a plumber, sparky or painter, chances are you'll find a great deal this weekend as tradies from across the region go under the auctioneer's hammer.

As part of the inaugural Sids and Kids ACT Tradies Galore fundraising auction dozens of local tradies have donated their special skills for a worthy cause.

Among them is Queanbeyan mechanic Kevin Warland.

For one winning auction bidder Mr Warland will put his seven years of mechanical experience to work for three hours.

The mechanic said he was having a drink at Rose Cottage Inn a few weeks ago when he

saw a flyer for the charity auction and decided to get Performance Plus Auto Services involved.

"Whoever wins our auction will bring their car in here and we will work on it for three hours," he said.

"Those three hours would cover a major service at worst, or three hours of repair work. It should go a long way."

SIDS and Kids ACT volunteer coordinator Marnie Barton said an overwhelming response from local businesses meant there would be plenty on auction items on offer from \$1000 worth of cabinetmaking, 10 hours of garden maintenance or \$750 of decking.

"We have had a fantastic response from local tradies

wanting to get involved in our auction," Ms Barton said. "We are hoping it will be a big night."

Bidders will take turns to make an offer on each of the prizes as they go under the hammer of master auctioneer Jason Roses.

All the money raised will help Sids and Kids ACT continue to support the families of children under six who die suddenly and unexpectedly regardless of the cause.

Ticket sales also include entertainment by MC Kristen Henry from Mix 106.3, live music, raffles and a buffet dinner.

For more information call Sids and Kids ACT on 6287 4255 or get down to Rose Cottage Inn, Isabella Drive, Chisholm from 6pm tonight.