



MT ELIZA



Ashleigh Jamieson, 16, holds an insect. Picture: JASON SAMMO

Students get a boost from camp experience

THE campers with Muscular Dystrophy Australia didn't shy away from the slugs, bugs or beetles last week as they petted the spectrum of creepy crawlies during their stay at Camp Manyung in Mt Eliza.

More than 30 campers living with muscular dystrophy spent last week playing wheelchair sports, laser skirmish, karaoke and having party and casino nights.

For campers like Ashleigh Jamieson, 16, it was a great opportunity just to "see friends from all over that you never get to see".

"It gives us something to do," she said.

"A lot of people are out of school and it gives them something to look forward to."

The Mt Eliza high school student, who had attended the camps since she was 11, said there were many new faces this year.

Many tertiary students volunteered at the camp to give them first-hand experience as carers.

Carer Nicola Williams, 21, said the camp was relaxing and had a community feel to it.

Muscular Dystrophy Australia executive director Boris Struk said the camp provided a fun and relaxing place for people with MD.

"At the same time, it also allows a break for the primary carers of these children, some time to recharge their batteries and unwind while they know their loved one is being taken care of at CampMDA," Mr Struk said.