



Student Annabelle Hall has published a book to help raise funds for the Hutt St Centre.

Picture: NAOMI JELICOE

A perfect way to help out

Sophie Perri

Student Annabelle Hall has written, illustrated and published her own book to help Adelaide's homeless. The 15 year old will donate all proceeds from her tale about a homeless cat, *Cleo's Search for a Purr-fect Home*, to the Hutt St Centre. The Walford student started working on the book earlier this year as part of her personal project, a requirement of all Year 10 students at the school.

"The aim of the project is to focus your learning in an area you're passionate about,

so I chose to raise awareness for children about homeless people in the community...I did a writing course and that's where I came up with the story about a homeless cat, because I thought it would adapt to children and I could sell the book and donate all proceeds to the Hutt St Centre," she says. Annabelle, whose parents have helped her print 100 copies of the \$20 book, volunteered at the Hutt St centre with a family friend for the first time in December, and she says the experience has stayed with her. "I met all these people and there was this old man who started crying because he said nobody young has ever gone to help,"

she says. "It really touched his heart ... they're all incredibly grateful."

Annabelle will participate in the centre's annual fundraiser Walk A Mile in My Boots on Friday (August 7), a one-hour morning walk that aims to help people understand the plights of the 6000 people who experience homelessness in SA each year.

Annabelle will sell her book at a stall, and hopes her story will help younger people understand what's happening in their community.

Walk A Mile in My Boots starts at Victoria Park, Friday, August 7, 7.30am. Visit huttstcentre.org.au