

**Echo Newspaper**  
**Thursday 29**  
**October 2009**



■ Back on course – apprentice Tommy Nicholls shakes hands with PC Mike Hillis, with Steve Balcomb and apprentice Jordan Cornwell  
*Picture: MAXINE CLARKE X7MKM-05*

## Police donate bikes to college

**ENGINEERING** pupils are back in the saddle and repairing bikes thanks to their local bobbies.

Youngsters taking part in the construction and engineering course at Prospects College, Basildon, rely on working on cars and bikes to learn the skills of the trade.

But the vehicles cost a lot of money, so police in Basildon have donated 17 pedal cycles and four motorbikes to the college.

All of the bikes have been recovered as lost property.

Acting Chief Insp Paul Howell said: "These bikes were doing nothing, but now they will help these

youngsters complete their course and gain the valuable skills they need."

Steve Balcomb, engineering team leader at Prospects College, added: "It is difficult to get hold of bikes with the costs involved. This way we can use our money to buy tools instead."