



Speech by

GEOFF WILSON

MEMBER FOR FERNY GROVE

Hansard 2 March 2000

POLICE CITIZENS YOUTH CLUB

Mr WILSON (Ferny Grove—ALP) (7.20 p.m.): I want to draw the attention of the House to the excellent work being done by the Hills District Police Citizens Youth Club in Arana Hills. The PCYC sits on the boundary between the electorates of Ferny Grove and Everton and is receiving growing community support from the suburbs in the north-west of Brisbane. The PCYC is under the leadership of a new and energetic committee of management chaired by Mr John Gordon.

Senior Sergeant Dave Moore has brought enormous stability, commonsense and a steady hand to the day-to-day management of the club, ably supported by a small staff, some of whom are volunteers. This committee is taking further the work that was initiated in the previous year by the committee of management chaired by Inspector Ross Gorrie of the Ferny Grove police division. The PCYC objective is to work with young people in the local community for their social and personal development, and to build positive relationships with police in the local area.

Recently I had the great pleasure of attending the annual PCYC awards night. The dinner was attended by about 100 people associated in different ways with the sporting and youth activities promoted by the club. Those in attendance included Mr Alan Honour, Assistant Commissioner for the Metropolitan North region, along with Inspector Ross Gorrie, whose excellent work with the PCYC I referred to earlier. Unfortunately, time does not permit me to mention everyone who received an award, but congratulations go to a range of people. I ask the leave of the House to incorporate the names and the awards in Hansard.

Leave granted.

Hills District PCYC Awards Night Awards & Recipients

CITIZENSHIP AWARD

This award is in two categories being Junior and Senior.

This Award will be presented by Pine Rivers Shire Council Mayor Yvonne CHAPMAN

Nominees for this award will be Hills District PCYC Branch members who have contributed service to the community in a voluntary capacity and which service has been of benefit to others. The nominees will also have a high level of respect from other community members.

There were no nominations for the Junior section of this award.

There were three nominations for the Senior Award.

Recipient—Tim SHIPSTONE

Tim has been a member of the Branch for three years. In 1999 Tim was a member of the Pine Rivers Shire Council Youth Action Committee for the last two years and was elected chairperson in 1999. During this time he was instrumental in establishing the Youth Suicide Strategy in the Pine Rivers Shire.

Tim was also a representative on the Queensland Youth Parliament last year and debated topics that were presented to cabinet for discussion.

Achievers Award

This award is in two categories the young Achievers Award and the Achievers Award (Senior).

These awards will be presented by the Member for Ferny Grove Mr Geoff WILSON

Nominees for this award will be Hills District PCYC Branch members who have achieved "excellence" in their areas of personal pursuit. These areas are open and include sporting, recreational, musical, cultural and personal achievements.

There were 6 nominees in the Young Achiever Award.

Recipient—Tracey KELLIGHER

Tracey has been a member of the Tora Bushido Section of the Branch for over two years and was diagnosed with cancer in 1998. She underwent treatment including chemotherapy and some hospital stays. During all of this time Tracey continued her attendance at her classes in Tora Bushido and at school. Despite her setbacks and illness she maintained her marks at school and took part in gradings and was successful in attaining her level four in Tora Bushido.

Tracey is unable to be with us tonight as she is in Singapore with her family as this has been one of her wishes to visit her father and his family. The award is accepted on her behalf by Jean-Paul THORNTWAITE a fellow member of the Tora Bushido Section.

Achievers Award (Senior)

Recipient—Jean-Paul THORNTWAITE

Jean-Paul has been a member of the Branch for the last two years and began training with the Tora Bushido Section about 18 months ago. Early in 1999 Jean-Paul competed in the State Titles. He was successful and attained a Gold Medal in the points sparring and a Bronze Medal in the kata disciplines. Later he competed in the World Kickboxing Titles and Disciplines held at the Gold Coast and won bronze in points sparring and is now ranked number 3 in the world in his division.

Award of Excellence (Programme)

This award will be presented by the Assistant Commissioner (Operations Support) Mr ATKINSON.

The Award of Excellence (Programme) is presented to a Branch activity or other PCYC activity run in conjunction with another community group and operates in one of the following areas

- recreational program,
- cultural program, or
- community based innovative program,

And the activity/program has demonstrated value by fulfilling needs of young people within the local community.

There were 2 nominations for this award.

Recipient—Youth Development Program—(Senior Sergeant Don AMOS and Inspector Ross GORRIE Ferny Grove Police Division)

The Youth Development Program began in 1998 when local Juvenile Aid Bureau Officers were involved in a series of incidents involving local youth in racial incidents at local High Schools. Community consultation was held with parents teachers and youth and it was identified that there was a lack of trust and respect for local Police amongst the young people and their families.

Detective Sergeant Don AMOS and other J.A.B. officers with the support of Inspector GORRIE organised a camp for these young people. This camp was followed with a series of other camps involving Police from City JAB, and other Police stations in the region, and a program of Buddy Days was started where Police and local youth were able to interact and develop friendships.

From these camps and Buddy Days it was identified that these young people had a number of welfare issues that needed to be addressed. In 1999 funding was obtained and a Youth Officer was employed to work on a one on one basis with local young people.

This program began with 22 local youth and has grown to the point where almost 100 young people, who have come to the notice of Ferny Grove Police, are involved in regular activities.

Of the original 22 young people all have become members of the PCYC, employment has been found for five, seven have started or completed TAFE courses and 8 others have returned to school to continue their education. Only 4 of the original 22 have reoffended.

The award will be accepted by Senior Sergeant Don AMOS and Inspector Ross GORRIE.

Community Support Award

This award will be presented by Pine Rivers Shire Council Division 3 Councillor Craig McCONNELL.

This award is given to a business, person, or group outside of the members of the Branch for extraordinary service or contribution, which has furthered the Aims and Objectives of the Queensland Police Citizens Youth Welfare Association (Hills District Branch).

Recipient: Arana Leagues Club

The Arana Leagues Club has had close association with this Branch since it opened its new premises. The Leagues club has financially assisted the Branch by being the Major Sponsor of our "Annual Fun Run". Each Wednesday the Arana Leagues Club provides space for the PCYC to run its Bingo Games free of charge, and often assists with small incidental matters such as milk for the cups of tea and coffee, biscuits, or staff. This "free rent" saves the branch more than \$7,500 each year.

In mid 1999 Ron CRUMP the General Manager invited the Branch to attend the local business leaders luncheons that the Leagues Club provided for local businesses to interact and network, this invitation opened up opportunities of networking that have led to increased income and exposure.

The award will be accepted by Mr Dan WHITE the Marketing and Promotions Manager at the Arana Leagues Club.

Club Contribution Award

These awards will be presented by the Branch Chairperson Mr John JORDAAN.

This award is presented to staff, volunteers and members who have given extraordinary service beneficial to the Branch over a period not less than 5 years.

Recipients: Kim TEAGUE

Kim, who is a solicitor by profession, has been a member of the Branch Management and Advisory Committees for 7 years and has served as the Deputy Chairperson in 1997 and 1998. He was elected as Treasurer in 1999. Kim has been involved in fundraising for the Branch since he first began with the Branch in 1993.

Carolyn HEALY

Carolyn, who works as a customer relations officer for Telstra, was one of the foundation members of the Branch when it was officially opened in 1990. Carolyn has served as a member of the Management and Advisory Committees for 10 years and is presently the Deputy Chairperson of the Branch. Carolyn is also presently serving on the Board of Directors of the Queensland Police Citizens Youth Welfare Association.

Kim SCOTT

Kim is presently one of our Kindy Climbers coaches and has been a volunteer worker since 1982. Kim has worked as a volunteer at Blue Light Discos, fundraising dinners, and the recently restarted Dance Parties. She assists every year with the telephone book deliveries and most other fundraisers or events that the Branch organises.

Marea BROOK

Marea is employed by the Branch as the Administrative Assistant. To this should be added the titles of problem solver, general handyman, cleaner and chief organiser. Prior to being employed in the administrative area, Marea coached Gymnastics, co-ordinated the Bicycle Education Classes, and did volunteer reception work.

Prior to the present Branch Manager's arrival several Relief Managers worked at the Branch, but for a period of time Marea was the only person working at the club and handled all of the day to day Branch business and decision making.

Perhaps for this award she should be presented with a watch, as she never seems to know when it is time to finish work and go home. Marea regularly works 7 to 8 hours a week as a volunteer on top of the time that she works as an employee.

In conclusion, the PCYC is a great club doing great things in the community. I wish it the very best for the future.
