



Speech by

CHRIS FOLEY

Member for MARYBOROUGH

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POLICE AND CITIZENS YOUTH CLUB, MARYBOROUGH

Mr CHRIS FOLEY (Maryborough—Ind) (6.55 p.m.): I rise to speak in this adjournment debate to pay tribute to a gentleman called Mr Bob Macfie, who has worked since 1976 in our electorate for the establishment of a PCYC club. This gentleman has worked tirelessly towards the establishment of that club, and it has been a long and frustrating time since 1976.

We have a problem in Maryborough with youth vandalism to the point at which the Maryborough Chamber of Commerce has actually offered a \$300 reward for vandalism convictions. Simply speaking, this is because the youth in Maryborough are bored. When they get bored, they go out and do damage. They get drunk and they roam the streets.

Unfortunately, recently the Maryborough community lost one of its true Maryborough sporting icons, a gentleman called Mr Denis Wellbeloved, who was an Olympic boxing coach and who represented Australia at the Atlanta Olympics at a coaching level and also has been the team manager for Papua New Guinea boxing. Denis has a fantastic way with people. He would get alongside the young fellows in town who were causing trouble and would get them involved in boxing. His death earlier this year has left a terrible hole in Maryborough. Many of the youth of the town who have nothing to do are getting back up to their old tricks.

I ask the Hon. Steve Robertson if he would consider making some state land available to site a police and citizens youth club in Maryborough. Although the PCYC organisation already has some funds to go towards building a club, they do not have any land. This would be of tremendous value to our electorate and would go a long way and fit in very, very nicely with the high calibre of sporting prowess that exists already in Maryborough.