

Hope Vale kids hopeful for police club in revamped hall

HOPE Vale's young people will soon have a place to enjoy after-school activities thanks to the roll-out of Police Citizens Youth Clubs (PCYC) into indigenous communities across the Cape.

The old Hope Vale community centre will be refurbished and redeveloped into a PCYC where young people can take part in sports activities.

Queensland Police Citizens Youth Welfare Association Far Northern region supervisor training officer Senior Sergeant David Bird said he was on the lookout for local tradespeople to help with the refurbishment.

"We really want the local people to be involved in re-building the centre so we want to hear from local tradespeople interested in helping," he said.

"They will be paid of course."

Sen-Sgt Bird said all sorts of tradespeople were needed including plumbers, electricians and carpenters.

"The building will be fully air conditioned so we also need people who can install and maintain that."

Hope Vale deputy mayor Paul Wallace welcomed the move, saying the plan would make a big difference to the area's children.

"All the other communities have these fantastic complexes and this will make such a big difference to the kids who are our priority," Cr Wallace said. He said all three levels of government had contributed a third of the cost of the refurbishment under the shared

responsibility agreement signed by the Prime Minister when he was in the area late last year. PCYC Cape York community support co-ordinator Jennifer Lively said a PCYC had been up and running in Wujal Wujal since June 2004.

"We get an average of 60-odd kids along in the afternoons during term time and that number rises to about 80 kids during school holidays so it is really popular," Ms Lively said.

She said Wujal Wujal kids had been taking advantage of skate hire at \$2 a pair for about four hours.

"I have had to implement a no socks, no skating rule though," Ms Lively laughed.