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Gambling Inquiry Productivity Commission
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It is with great pleasure that Youth Off The Streets provides this submission to the Productivity Commission.



Father Chris Riley

Background

Youth Off The Streets (YOTS) is a non-denominational and non-discriminatory organisation assisting young people aged 12 - 21 years old who are dealing with issues of homelessness, abuse and neglect, exclusion from school and drug and alcohol dependency. Our aim is to provide young people with the education, life skills, support and psychological stability to be able to find employment and live independently. We support these young people as they work to turn their lives around and overcome immense personal trauma such as neglect and physical, psychological and emotional abuse.

Since opening in 1991, YOTS has grown from a single food van delivering meals to young homeless people on the streets of Kings Cross to a major youth specific agency providing a wide range of services offering a full continuum of care.

Some of our services include:

- Community Development/Outreach
- Crisis refuge
- Semi-independent living program
- Accredited high schools
- Aboriginal Services
- Scholarship program
- Drug and alcohol treatment programs
- Long-term residential programs
- Aftercare service
- Young Parenting Program
- Early intervention programs in mainstream secondary schools nationally

YOTS provides crisis care for young people still living on the streets with our food van, youth refuge and outreach programs. We also operate an innovative drug and alcohol program specifically

designed for young people. Our accredited independent high schools in Surry Hills, the Southern Highlands, Merrylands, and Macquarie Fields provide flexible educational opportunities and support for young people living on the streets or who are unable to attend mainstream high schools. Many of these young people go on to successfully achieve their School Certificate and, in increasing numbers, their Higher School Certificate.

Our medium to long term residential rehabilitation programs, located in the Southern Highlands and the Hunter Valley, provide support for young people who have made the commitment to living a drug and crime free lifestyle. While they are in our care, the young people attend school as well as receive counselling, life skills and vocational training.

We use innovative drug prevention and early intervention strategies as well as ‘time out’ programs for young people at risk of becoming disconnected from mainstream education. Youth Off The Streets also runs the GetReel drug education competition with accompanying curriculum and our Values Education “YOUth Making a Difference” resource is available to schools across Australia.

Our Mission Statement: Youth Off The Streets is helping disconnected young people to discover greatness within, by engaging, supporting & providing opportunities to encourage & facilitate positive life choices.

Relationship with the Club Movement

Youth Off The Streets and ClubsNSW have worked in partnership for nearly a decade. To date, Youth Off The Streets has received a total financial contribution of \$3.5 million from the Club Movement. Of that total, we have received \$2.6million from various Clubs through the CDSE scheme.

These Clubs include:

Aberdeen RSL Citizens Club Ltd	Everglades Country Club Ltd	Paddington Woollahra RSL
Adamstown RSL Club Co Op Ltd	Fingal Bay Bowls Sports & Rec Club Ltd	Palm Beach Golf Club Ltd
Alder Park Bowling Club Co-Op Ltd	Finley Bowling Club Limited	Palm Beach RSL Sub Branch Club Ltd
Amidale Ex-Services Memorial Club Ltd	Forbes Services Memorial Club Limited	Pambula Merimbula Golf Club Ltd
Ashfield RSL Club Ltd	Forestville RSL Club Ltd	Panthers Cardiff Newcastle
Asquith Rugby League Club Ltd	Gallipoli Legion Club Newcastle Ltd	Parkes Bowling Club Ltd
Auburn RSL Club Co Op Ltd	Gerringong Bowling & Recreation Club Ltd	Parkes Mens Bowling Club
Avalon Beach RSL Club Ltd	Gladesville Bowling & Sports Club Ltd	Parramatta Leagues Club Ltd
Balgowlah RSL Bridge Club	Glen Innes Bowling Club Ltd	Parramatta Returned Ex Servicemens Club Ltd
Balgowlah RSL Memorial Club Ltd	Gloucester Soldiers Club Ltd	Pennant Hills Golf Club Ltd
Ballina Golf & Sports Club Ltd	Goonellabah Soccer Club Ltd	Penrith Gaels Cultural & Sporting Association Ltd
Balmain Leagues Club Limited	Gosford City Womens Bowling Club	Penrith Rugby League Club Ltd
Bankstown District Sports Club Limited	Gosford Womens Bowling Club	Penshurst RSL Club Co Op Ltd
Bankstown RSL Club Ltd	Goulburn Soldiers Club Ltd	Petersham RSL Club Ltd
Bargo Sports Club Co-Op Ltd	Goulburn Workers Club Ltd	Picton Bowling Club
Bargo Womens Bowling Club	Grafton District Services Club Ltd	Pittwater RSL Club Ltd
Barooga Sports Club Ltd	Granville RSL Sub Branch Club Ltd	Port Kembla RSL Club Ltd
Bass Hill RSL Sub Branch Comm & Rec Club Ltd	Greenacre Bowling & Recreation Club Co-Op Ltd	Port Macquarie City Bowling Club Ltd
Bateau Bay Bowling Club Ltd	Griffith Ex-Servicemens Club Ltd	PT Bowling & Community Club Ltd
Bathurst Panthers Club	Griffith Leagues Club Ltd	Punchbowl Diggers Womens Bowling Club
Bathurst RSL Club Ltd	Grosvenor Club Ltd	Putney Tennyson Womens Bowling Club
Bayview Golf Club Ltd	Guildford Rugby League	Queanbeyan Leagues Club Ltd
Beecroft Bowling & Recreation Club	Gulgong Bowling & Sporting Club Ltd	Ramsgate RSL Memorial Club Ltd
Bellata Golf Club Ltd	Gundagai District Services Club Ltd	Randwick Labor Club Ltd
Belmore Returned Services Club Ltd	Halekulani Bowling Club Ltd	Redfern RSL Club Ltd

Belrose Women Bowling Club	Hamilton RSL Club Ltd	Returned & Services League of Aust - Maroubra Sub-Branch
Beresfield Bowling Club Co Op Ltd	Harbord Womens Bowling Club	Revesby Workers Club Ltd
Birrong Bowling & Sports Club Ltd	Hills District Bowling Club Ltd	Rich River Golf Club Ltd
Blacktown Workers Club Ltd	Hornsby RSL Club Ltd	Richmond Club Ltd
	Hunter River District Womens Bowling Association	Riverstone & District Bowling & Recreation Club Ltd
Bomaderry Bowling Club Ltd	Hunters Hill Friendship Ltd	Riverstone-Schofields Memorial Club Ltd
Bomaderry RSL Club Ltd		
Bondi Junction Waverley RSL Sub Branch Club Ltd	Hurstville RSL Memorial Club	Riverwood Legion & Community Club Ltd
Bonnie Doon Golf Club Ltd	Huskisson RSL Club Limited	Riverwood Legion Club Ladies Auxiliary
Boorowa Ex-Service & Citizens Club Ltd	Huskisson RSL Womens Auxiliary	Rooty Hill RSL Club Ltd
Botany Golf Club Ltd	Illawarra Catholic Club Ltd	Rose Bay RSL Club Co Op Ltd
Bowral Golf Club Limited	Ingleburn RSL Club Ltd	Rosehill Bowling & Recreation Club Ltd
Bowral Womens Bowling Club	Ingleburn RSL Sub Branch Club Ltd	Roseville Golf Club Ltd
Brighton Le Sands RSL Club Ltd	Inverell Returned Servicemens Club Ltd	Royal Motor Yacht Club
Bulli Workers Club Ltd	John Edmondson VC Memorial Club	Ryde City Bowling Club Co-Op Ltd
Bundarra Sports & Rec Club Ltd	Kembla Heights Bowls & Rec Club Ltd	Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club Ltd
	Kemblawarra Portuguese Sport & Social Club Ltd	
Burwood RSL Club Ltd	Kemps Creek Sporting & Bowling Club Ltd	Seven Hills Toongabbie RSL Club Ltd
Cabra Vale Diggers Club	Kiama Leagues Club Ltd	Shellharbour Workers Club Ltd
Camden RSL Womens Bowling Club	Kingsgrove RSL Club Ltd	Singleton Returned Servicemens Club
Cammeray Golf Club Ltd	Kirribilli Ex Service & Community Bowl Club Ltd	Singleton RSL Snooker Club
	Kogarah Golf Club Ltd	Singleton Womens Bowling Club
Campbelltown Catholic Club Limited	Kurnell Community Sports & Recreation Club Ltd	Smithfield RSL Club
Campsie RSL Sub Branch Club Ltd		
Canberra Labor Club Ltd	Kurrajong Heights Womens Bowling Club	Soldiers Point Bowling Club Ltd
Canberra Southern Cross Club Ltd	Laurieton United Servicemens Club Ltd	South Newcastle Rugby League Club Ltd
Canberra Tradesmens Union Club Inc	Lidcombe Catholic Workmens Club Ltd	South Sydney Graphic Arts Club
Canley Heights RSL & Sports Club Ltd	Lightning Ridge District Bowling Club Ltd	South Wagga Sports & Bowling Club Ltd
Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL Club Ltd		Southern Metro Region Clubs NSW
Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL Youth Club	Lismore & District Workers Club Ltd	
Canterbury League Club Ltd	Lithgow & District Workmens Club Ltd	St George Leagues Club Ltd
Caringbah RSL Memorial Club Ltd	Liverpool Catholic Club Ltd	St George Masonic Club Ltd
	Maitland Golf Club Lady Members Improvement Fund	St George Motor Boat Club Ltd
Castle Hill RSL Club Ltd	Malabar RSL Sub Branch Club Ltd	St George Rowing Club Ltd
Castle Hill Womens Bowling Club	Manilla RSL & Ex-Servicemens Club Ltd	St Georges Basin Country Club Ltd
Central Charlestown Leagues Club Ltd	Manly Fishing & Sporting Club Limited	St Johns Bowling & Rec Club Ltd
Central Coast Leagues Club Bridge Club	Manly Warringah Master Builders Club Ltd	St Johns Park Bowling Club Ltd
Central Coast Leagues Club Jazz League	Manly Warringah Rugby League Club Ltd	Stockton RSL & Citizens Club Ltd
Chatswood RSL Club Ltd	Marks Point Bowling Club Co-Op Ltd	Sussex Inlet RSL Club Ltd
Chinese Cultural Club Ltd	Maroubra RSL Sub-Branch Club Limited	Sutherland District Trade Union Club Ltd
City Diggers Wollongong	Maroubra Seals Sports & Community Club Ltd	Sydney Aussie Rules Social Club Ltd
	Marrickville Bowling & Recreation Club Ltd	
City of Blacktown RSL Club Ltd	Mathoura District Servicemens Bowling Club Ltd	Sydney Rowing Club Ltd
City of Fairfield RSL Memorial Club Ltd		Taree Leagues Sports Club Ltd
City of Sydney RSL & Community Club Co op Ltd	Matraville RSL Bowling Club	Taren Point Bowling & Recreation Club Ltd
City Tattersalls Club Ltd	Matraville RSL Sub-Branch Club Limited	Tathra Beach Bowling Club Inc
City Tattersalls Ladies Golf Club	Mayfield Bowling Club Co-Op Ltd	The Bowlers Club of NSW Limited
Club Macquarie Co Op Ltd	Mayfield Sports & Recreation Club Ltd	The Catholic Club Limited
Club Marconi	Merrylands Bowling Sporting & Recreation Club Ltd	The Entrance Leagues Club
	Merrylands RSL Club Ltd	The Handle Bar Tavern
Club Marconi Ltd	Milton Ulladulla Bowling Club Co Op Ltd	The Illawarra Master Builders Club Ltd
Club Mosman	Mingara Bowling Club	The Juniors
Clubkeno Holdings Pty Ltd		The Silverwater Club Co-Op Ltd
Clubs ACT	Moama Bowling Club Ltd	Toongabbie Bowling & Recreation Club Ltd
	Mollymook Golf Club Ltd	
Clubs NSW Central Coast Region	Mona Vale Golf Club Ltd	Tuggerah Lakes Golf Club Ltd
Clubs NSW Eastern Zone Bear Cottage & Other Charities Commit	Moree & District Services Club Ltd	Tuggerah Lakes Memorial Club Ltd
Clubs NSW Southern Metro Region		Tumut Bowling & Recreation Club Ltd
Coffs Harbour Ex-Services Club	Moss Vale Services Club Ltd	
Collegians Rugby League Football Club Ltd		Tumut District RSL Club Ltd

Comboyne Ex-Servicemens & Ctzs Club Ltd	Mount Lewis Bowling Club Co Op Ltd	Turrumurra Bowling Club Ltd
Concord Golf Club Ltd	Mounties	Turrumurra Womens Bowling Club
Coogee Bowling Club Ltd	Muirfield Golf Club Ltd	Tweed Heads Bowls Club Ltd
Coogee Legion Ex-Service Club Ltd	Munmorah United Bowling Club Ltd	Wagga RSL Club Ltd
Cooma Ex-Services Club Ltd	Muswellbrook RSL Sub Branch Club Ltd	Wallsend Bowling Club Co-Op Ltd
Coonamble Womens Bowling Club	Nelson Bay Bowling & Recreation Club Ltd	Wamberal Womens Bowling Club
Corowa RSL Indoor Bowls Club	Neutral Bay Club	Warilla Sports & Social Club Ltd
Country Golf Club & Bowral RSL Club Ltd	New South Wales Sports Club Ltd	Wentworthville Leagues Club Ltd
Cowra Services Club Ltd	Newcastle Catholic Club Pty Ltd	Wentworthville United
Croatian Club Ltd	North Bondi RSL Club Ltd	Western Metropolitan Region Clubs NSW
		Western Suburbs Leagues Club Ltd - Ashfield
Cronulla Womens Bowling Club	North Manly Bocce Club	Western Suburbs Leagues Club Ltd - Illawarra
		Western Suburbs Leagues Club Ltd - Newcastle
Croydon Park Ex-Servicemens Club Ltd	North Ryde Golf Club Ltd	Weston District Workers Co-Op Ltd
		Westport Bowling Club Ltd
Cruising Yacht Club of Australia Ltd	North Ryde RSL Community Club Ltd	Wests Illawarra Leagues Club
Culburra Womens Bowling Club	North Sydney Anzac Memorial Club Ltd	
Dapto Bowling Club Ltd	North Sydney Leagues Club Ltd	Willoughby Park Bowling Club Ltd
Dapto Citizens Bowling Club Ltd	Northbridge Golf Club Ltd	Windale Gateshead Bowling Club Co-Op Ltd
	Northern Metropolitan Clubs in the Community	Windsor RSL Club
Dapto RSL Sub Branch Club		
	Northern Suburbs Rugby Football Club Ltd	Wisemans Ferry Bowling Club Ltd
Denman RSL Sub Branch Club Ltd	NSW Harness Racing Club Ltd	Woden Tradesmens Union Club
Earlwood Bardwell Park RSL Club Ltd		Wollstonecraft Bowling & Recreation Club Ltd
Earlwood Bardwell Park RSL Womens Bowling Club	NSW Leagues Club Ltd	Woodburn Bowling Club Ltd
Earlwood Ex Servicemens Club Limited	NSW Masonic Club Ltd	Woy Woy Womens Bowling Club
		Wyong RSL Bridge Club
East Maitland Bowling Club	Oberon RSL Bowling Club	
Eastern Suburbs Leagues Club Ltd	Oberon RSL Club Ltd	
Echuca Moama RSL Club Ltd	Oberon RSL Sub Branch Club	
Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club Ltd	Oberon Rugby Leagues Club	
Euston Bowling & Recreation Club Ltd	Orange Ex Services Club Ltd	

Additionally, Youth Off The Streets has received \$850,000 from ClubsNSW. This financial support has significantly impacted YOTS and allowed us to continue the work we do as well as commence new programs and services.

For example, the support we received from the Club Movement was integral in helping us set up our international development division, YOTS Overseas Relief Fund. In the aftermath of the 2005 Boxing Day Tsunami, Father Chris Riley and YOTS responded to the growing demand for services needed to support children affected by the disaster. In just a short time, Youth Off The Streets had signed an historic agreement with Muhammadiyah, the second largest Muslim organisation in Indonesia, to work in partnership to provide a Children's Care Centre in Aceh. This would not have been possible without the support from Clubs. Just recently, the Children's Care Centre announced that permanent houses and buildings have been erected. Several YOTS stakeholders, including Mr Peter Newell and Mr David Costello from ClubsNSW, attended the official ribbon cutting ceremony.

Another example includes the ongoing funding that ClubsNSW has provided for the Youth Off The Streets 'Walking In My Shoes' Camp. The camp is run twice a year and now forms a significant part of our programs and services. It involves children with physical disabilities, where young people from Youth Off The Streets deliver a specially designed camp in order to give low-income families of disabled children free respite. These camps aim to encourage our youths to understand the demands placed upon the families of the children who have disabilities. It also provides them with

the opportunity to recognise behavioural cues and respond appropriately to the challenges, dilemmas and rewards when communicating and working in this field. The support from ClubsNSW has been outstanding in relation to these camps and often includes ClubsNSW staff that volunteer on the camp. Moving beyond financial support is just one example of how integrated Clubs support has become. The camps have been hugely successful in assisting young people in our programs to gain self-confidence and face their challenges, which could not have been achieved without the support of ClubsNSW.

As mentioned above, the support we receive from the Club Movement is not purely financial. In the history of our partnership, various Clubs have provided us with a wide array of support. This includes but is not limited to:

- Campbelltown Catholic Club – provides YOTS with a private room for our monthly manager’s meetings as well as various functions throughout the year.
- Merrylands RSL – provides YOTS with free venue hire for meetings, as well as discounted food and beverages for YOTS internal events.
- Canterbury-Hurlstone Park Club – has provided food for the Food Van we operate nightly.
- Hornsby RSL – has provided YOTS young people and staff complimentary meals.
- Mittagong RSL – has provided YOTS with free venue hire.
- The Mounties – provided a venue for the young people in our care to play an exhibition game with cricket legend Glen McGrath.
- Various Clubs have provided employment opportunities and work experience for our young people wanting to enter the hospitality industry.
- The network’s magazine, *Club Life*, regularly features articles on YOTS which helps to increase our profile in the community. It has also provided YOTS with periodic advertising space at no cost.
- ClubsNSW regularly provides promotional material, such as backpacks, pens and other items, for young people in our programs.
- Through ClubsNSW, several of its other charity partners, including the Volunteer Rescue Association and NSW Institute of Sport, have organised special activities and excursions for the young people in our care.

All of these contributions impact YOTS significantly and has meant that we are able to spend more of our funds directly on the needs of the young people in our programs and services. As YOTS services are spread out across NSW, the support from various Clubs has allowed us to minimise the cost of organising venue hire to accommodate YOTS staff and young people.

Additionally, for many of our young people, accessing employment or work experience opportunities is a very daunting and challenging experience. The Club Movement support our young people directly by offering employment opportunities for our young people in both hospitality and office administration. This assistance cannot be underestimated, as employment can help transform the lives of the young people in our programs.

In October 2003 and September 2004, during the poker machine tax debates, Youth Off The Streets Founder and CEO, Father Chris Riley, was privileged to speak at two well-attended rallies in support of Clubs. His voice, and that of many others, demonstrated to the NSW government just how supportive the Club Movement is to the community.

Other Information

Apart from the support which YOTS has received, we acknowledge that Clubs in general support their communities in a number of ways. For instance, affordable meals, a place for seniors to meet and greet, and the many social activities (eg bowls, etc) within the Movement.

In addition to supporting Youth Off The Streets, ClubsNSW also aligns itself with other youth-focussed organisations such as The Talent Development Project and the Kokoda Youth Leadership Clubs Challenge, both of which strive to assist young people to reach their full potential. This is a philosophy that is embedded throughout YOTS and our programs and services.

Conclusion

The Club Movement has been a major supporter of YOTS for almost a decade, and have provided us with both financial and in-kind support. Similar to YOTS, the Clubs Movement has roots that are embedded in the community and which works to service the needs of community members. In our view, Clubs' longstanding support to YOTS is a testament to its commitment to disadvantaged and disconnected young people throughout NSW.