

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA ALERT

Thursday 17 July 2008

Young Pies do time on the inside

Nine young Collingwood Football Club players will this afternoon (Thursday 17 July) 'do time' at the Parkville Youth Residential Centre – playing sport and engaging with young detainees.

The community visit has been arranged by YMCA Victoria which provides daily support to every young person inside the Victorian youth justice system. The Parkville Youth Residential Centre is for young offenders aged 10 to 14, with the AFL players to play volleyball and spend time talking with the young boys inside.

The visit is also part of the Collingwood Football Club's commitment to mentoring its young players, and to supporting community initiatives, and is one of a few visits that have taken place due to Senior Coach Mick Malthouse's role as Patron of The Bridge Project.

The Bridge Project is a YMCA community-led initiative that aims to prevent young offenders from returning to custody, particularly during the first of release when up to 66% are likely to re-offend, by providing training, employment and mentoring. After 18 months, none of the men who have gone through work placement have re-offended,

First and second year CFC players making the visit are Kevin Dyas, Luke Casey-Leigh, Ben Reid, John McCarthy, Toby Thoolen, Brad Dick, Jaxson Barham, Lachlan Keeffe, and Brent Macaffer. They will be joined by Collingwood coaches Alan Richardson, Gavin Brown and Paul Licuria.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY OUTSIDE THE PARKVILLE YOUTH RESIDENTIAL CENTRE
(STRICTLY NO MEDIA ALLOWED INSIDE)

Mick Malthouse and Chief Police Commissioner Christine Nixon will be keynote speakers at The Bridge Project Breakfast on Thursday 14 August at Zinc at Federation Square, as part of a quest to raise further support from the business community for the initiative. For more information visit www.bridgeproject.ymca.org.au.

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Present for interview and for further information:

Jim Wynd,
Manager Youth Justice and Forensics, YMCA Victoria, (and ex Fitzroy player.)
Mob: 0419 346 362

Sherilyn Hanson
Manager - The Bridge Project - Youth Justice, YMCA Victoria
Mob: 0421 177 569

www.victoria.ymca.org.au

