

Footy kids helping out

Fundraising

BUILDING a better community is one of the cornerstones of the North Hobart Junior Football Club and it showed on Wednesday.

As a result of its fundraising efforts, the club presented a cheque for \$4000 to Ronald McDonald House.

The Ronald McDonald House in Hobart is a "home away from home" for many Tasmanian families using the Royal Hobart Hospital.

The North Hobart Junior Football Club has been supporting the House for the past 10 years and has contributed about \$20,000.

NHJFC president Peter Fisher said junior footballers had an affinity with the house because many of the families using it had hospitalised children.

"The club starts fundraising for the house with its pre-season gala day of junior footy," he said.

"The annual gala day sees players from five years and up to under-17s from the North Hobart junior club competing against Sorell junior football teams.

"It has been a fantastic way to kick-off our season for the past 10 years and provides a



BONZA: Ronald McDonald House manager Penny Richardson accepts the cheque from footballers, clockwise from top, Jacob McCullum-Ring 12, Matt Doran 12, Jack McCulloch 12, Ryan Cowie 9, Zac Doran 8 and Jake Doran 12. Picture: SAM ROSEWARNE

means for our junior club to be closely involved with the support of a really worthwhile local charity such as Ronald McDonald House."

Mr Fisher said three of the NHJFC's under-13 players Sam Stokely, Zac Coppleman and Austin Bidgood were so inspired by the work of the

House, they organised a "head shave" and raised a further \$1000.

The NHJFC has a full list of

teams in the junior football competition and with qualified coaching continues to grow.

ROGER HANSON

Rewards offered for arson arrests

Crime

THE State Government is offering rewards of up to \$10,000 for information to help police track down arsonists who have targeted public housing properties.

63 public housing properties were deliberately burned down over the past two financial years.

Minister for Human Services Lin Thorp said the public housing properties destroyed by arson in the past two years alone were worth just over \$4 million.

"These crimes have a devastating impact on tenants and the community as a whole," she said.

"Each property lost is one less home that can be made available to low income Tasmanians.

Ms Thorp said Tasmanians had invested heavily in public housing, with around 12,000 homes across the State valued at more than \$1.6 billion.

Information can be provided to Crime Stoppers and people doing so can remain anonymous.

Information leading to a conviction will go to Crime Stoppers who will make a determination as to how much of the maximum \$10,000 will be paid.

Housing Tasmania will then reimburse police for the amounts paid out.

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