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Thursday Island Boat Club on track to get a new lease of life

Up to 15 trainees will be engaged to work on the Thursday Island Boat Club renovations; a project delivered through a partnership between the Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA), Mypathway and the Torres Strait Youth Recreational Sports Association (TSYRSA).

The boat Club, operated by the TSYRSA, has needed renovations for several years in order to have the club returned to its former state as a useable facility for the community.

The TSRA Chairperson, Mr Joseph Elu, said the TSRA is pleased to be working with the partners to restore the Boat Club.

“It is a good example of how we can maximise the Government Investment in the region, to ensure we are delivering on community priorities and also providing skills and knowledge to our young people,” Mr Elu said.

“The group of Community Development Programme Job seekers, through Mypathway, will be led by builder Rob Clarke and his team who will provide guidance on the renovation and facilitate the building tasks.

“This is an ideal opportunity for job seekers to undertake a broad range of activities that exposes them to a real building project.”

Mr Elu said in the coming weeks the site will be fenced and the demolition work will begin in preparation for the renovation.

“The works will include a new toilet block, including an externally accessible toilet and shower, and a large storage shed to store the water craft and equipment for various activities,” Mr Elu said.

“The renovation will also include the removal and replacement of the rusted roofing, a commercial grade kitchen, new internal ceilings and floor coverings. The works will bring the Boat Club back to its former glory and will provide a great venue for community events, particularly those focussed on youth sport and recreational activities.”

The president of the TSYRSA, Mr Alan Filewood, said the renovations had been an aspiration of the association for a long time and the Association is very happy that a large proportion of the work will be completed by youth under the direction of skilled builders.

Construction is planned over 20 weeks and will allow the Job Seekers to build on their certificate II in construction training which they completed over the past 12 months.

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