



Yarrabah News

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Minister launches boat and school program

Gunggandji Rangers celebrated the launch of their new boat - 'Mulmulbarra' - earlier this month with Federal Minister for Indigenous Affairs Senator Nigel Scullion doing the honours.

Gunggandji Rangers deputy chair Daniel Noble said he was grateful for the opportunities Senator Scullion and the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (PMC) had provided for the group through funding the new vessel.

"It's certainly going to be a useful tool for our rangers, to ensure that the monitoring of our lands and our Sea Country will be conducted," he said.

"It's going to give those guys a

perfect opportunity to showcase what they've learnt."

Senator Scullion was clearly impressed as he inspected the boat after telling a crowd of more than 100 students and supporters that it was education - the subject of his second launch of the day - that would help drive the boat.

"It's really hard to look after Country if you don't have a car," he said.

"And it's almost impossible to assist in the looking after of your Sea Country, if you don't have a boat.

"Rangers will be travelling around in this boat, and they'll be helping monitor species, like dugong and turtle, to ensure that there are enough there.

"As soon as you start talking about measuring, monitoring and science, we need smart young men and women, like you." *Continued...*

Mayors' delegation on the road to Canberra

Yarrabah Mayor Ross Andrews is part of a second north Queensland delegation of Mayors on the road to Canberra this week, to push regional issues on behalf of their constituents.

The 12-person group was expected to meet with more than 30 ministers, senators and representatives from both sides of government during their trip.

"We have been granted access to some of the government's most senior ministers, as well as key shadow ministers, to discuss issues that are important to our region," Cairns Mayor Cr Bob Manning said.

He said discussions would take

in road planning and investment, water and energy security, management of the Great Barrier Reef and other environmentally sensitive tourist draw cards, digital connectivity, support for Indigenous communities, and the availability of financial assistance grants, among other topics.

"I'm proud to be standing alongside my fellow mayors on behalf of the

FNQ community," he said.

Cr Andrews will travel with Mayors from the Cassowary Coast, Douglas, Cook, Carpentaria, Croydon, Etheridge and Tablelands councils, and the CEO of Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire.

Last month five other north Queensland Mayors, including Palm Island Mayor Alf Lacey, made a similar trip to advocate for the region.

From page one...

"Because an education is what allows you to become a scientist, and an education is going to be required for someone to have the qualifications to drive this vessel," Senator Scullion said.

"You've got to have to have an education to be able to understand about the biology of these wonderful animals, that you can see in some of these symbols, whether it is the sea eagle, or the turtle, or the dugong, or the fish.

"There are plenty of these jobs that are really exciting jobs but you need to be really well educated, and you need to study very hard at school."

Senator Scullion said the target of his second launch that day was the Remote School Attendance Strategy, also funded by PMC, where people in the community were employed to help get kids to school.

"We'll be employing up to nine people whose job it will be to get out of bed everyday and to work with families who are having some difficulties getting their children to school," he said.

"It's really tough, if you've missed school for three or four months, your parents might be away visiting someone or they might be away for medical reasons.



Above: Gungandji Ranger Leroy Noble and Below: members of the YLF with Senator Scullion

"When you come back, you're a bit behind, feel a bit shamed - so how do we break that?"

"Yarrabah is a place of great ideas, so can I ask you all as a community to support these School Attendance Officers. It's members of the community who can, if you see kids down at the shops on a school day, out of uniform and looking well, just go and say, 'you're supposed to be in school!'"

While he was in Yarrabah the Senator also met with Traditional Owners and the Yarrabah Leaders' Forum.



Decorated ambo will be missed by community

Gurriny Yealamucka staff, police, Council and community members have given Yarrabah paramedic Claine Underwood a big send-off into his new position as Queensland Ambulance Service Field Officer, based in Cooktown.

Yarrabah Mayor Ross Andrews said Mr Underwood would be missed.

“Claine has been a great role model for our young people here in Yarrabah,” Cr Andrews said.

“He will definitely be missed, but we wish him all the best in his new role.”

Mr Underwood said his new job was quite different to his current role in operational patient care.

“A field’s officer’s role is to go out and do community engagement and deliver any kind of first aid training or injury prevention programs,” he said.

“The role was developed to enhance people’s capabilities to manage emergencies in some of the remote areas around Hopevale, Wujal Wujal, Cooktown and Laura.”

Mr Underwood was the proud recipient of an Ambulance Service Medal (ASM) in January this year.



Claine Underwood (above); and below in the Yarrabah News in January this year.

CONGRATULATIONS to Queensland Ambulance Services Yarrabah Officer-in-Charge Claine Underwood who was recognised in the Australia Day 2018 Honours List announced last month.

Mr Underwood will receive the prestigious Ambulance Service Medal (ASM) which recognises distinguished service by the men and women of Australia’s ambulance services.

It is acknowledgement of his outstanding service to the community and as a role model within the QAS, who said on their Facebook page that Mr Underwood was highly deserving of the honour.

Congratulations again and thank you for your passion and commitment to our community.



Child protection high on several agendas



Late last month Yarrabah Council and Leaders Forum met with Queensland Family and Child Commission Commissioner Phillip Brooks and Office of the Commissioner Manager Jessica Oostenbroek.

The Queensland Child Protection Commission of Inquiry was established in 2012 to review the Queensland child protection system.

For more information see Strengthening our sector strategy 2016-19, Second action plan 2017-19 at <https://www.qfcc.qld.gov.au/sector/strengthening-sector-strategy-action-plans>

Bravehearts’ ‘Ditto Show’ has once again played to sellout audiences of nearly 200 students at Yarrabah’s Daycare and Pre-prep and Primary schools.

Cairns Bravehearts Team Coordinator Narelle Spence said the shows were well-received. “We visit Yarrabah every year and the kids just love Ditto,” she said.

As part of Child Protection Week Bravehearts launched a new personal safety parents guide to help Australian parents better protect their kids. The guide can be downloaded at <https://bravehearts.org.au/personalsafety>



Our kids can't be stars if they don't have enough sleep, Our ambo's won't save lives if they've not slept really deep, Our

families won't shine if they're up after nine, Our Elders in despair when a bass line hits the air, Our community

WE NEED

Kids need sleep to learn! Tiredness impacts not only the tired child's education but also the education of other children in the class and the wellbeing of school staff.

Tenants hos could be p number

It is a risk patie fati



Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council has partnered with several stakeholders in an effort to put an end to noise pollution around the community.

Mayor Ross Andrews said they had enlisted the help of the school, police, health services, ambulances and the Yarrabah News to try to get the message across that enough was enough.

"Somehow it has become 'normal' here for excessively and extremely

...y grows dumb as our ears become numb, To the same loud music, over and over and over, week in and week

out, Being played at full volume, so you all have to shout, A lack of respect is what this is about.

OUR SLEEP!

...sting noisy parties
...prosecuted for a
...er of offences

...k to our Paramedics and their
...ents if they are working under
...gue because they have not
...had adequate sleep.

We have data to support the argument that children who live in houses that have regular loud parties OR in close proximity to these houses can have lower attendance, higher behaviour referrals and lower academic achievement.

High volume sound could easily effect kids hearing, but of far more concern would be the sleep disturbance to everyone around and the negative messages around the all night parties.

It is important our Paramedics are able to rest and sleep when they can without unnecessary disturbances from loud music or noise keeping them from sleeping.

Your loud music affects everyone around you in more ways than you can imagine. Council doesn't want to make more rules but we will if it doesn't stop. Think about it and think about the people around you!

Keep your music to yourselves, because we don't want to hear it.



loud music to be played at all hours of the day and night," he said.

"And when you look at it, the number of people affected by it is really huge, and that includes our kids.

"Often it's the same music, over and over again, week after week

after week and it's got to stop, or at least be kept to reasonable hours."

He said the Council didn't want to have to make more rules, but people needed their rest.

"There are so many issues," he said.

"There's respect for our Elders and our cultural laws around respect,

especially around times of sorry business.

"There's law and order issues, health issues, education issues, and even our paramedics, who are vital to everyone's health and safety, are affected."

Continued...

WE NEED OUR SLEEP!



“On one hand we say we want local people to be in those positions but when they do live here they can’t get the sleep they need to be effective in what they do,” Cr Andrews said.

Paramedic Richard Murgha said he and his team were on-call and needed all the rest they could get.

“It is so important our Paramedics are able to be rested and fully functional to perform the lifesaving duties that are required of them,” he said.

“It is a risk to our Paramedic and patients if they are working under fatigue because when people are fatigued they can make mistakes.

“We need them to be able to perform their duties to their fullest and provide the residents of Yarrabah timely and quality emergency care.”

Gurriny Yealamucka Health Services Dr Kingsley Pearson said not only could high volumes affect children’s hearing, but sleep disturbance was also an issue.

“My concern is that some of our patients with chronic diseases say lack of sleep is causing an extra layer

of stress and distress on an already difficult health journey,” he said.

Yarrabah Police OIC Erin Shawcross said they had responded to a number of incidents resulting from noisy parties.

“People travelling to and from the noisy parties have been involved in serious traffic crashes and other persons have become victims of assault and domestic violence,” he said.

“Restricted alcohol and illicit drugs have been identified at several noisy parties.

“Tenants hosting noisy parties could be prosecuted for a number of offences including ‘organising an out of control event’ and ‘permitting the use of the residence for drug use to occur’”

Yarrabah State School Principal Jason Evert said sleep, or the lack of it, had potentially huge impacts on our children’s life

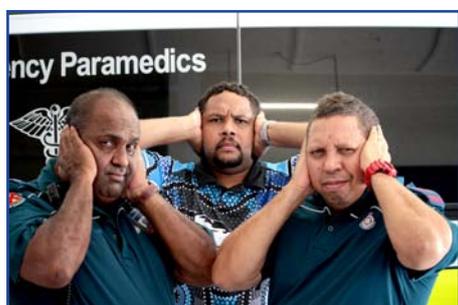
chances and future successes.

“As a parent, one of the most valuable things you can do to support your child’s education and success at school is ensuring they get a good night’s sleep, every night,” he said.

“Tiredness is a key contributing factor in many avoidable incidents we manage at school on a daily basis.

“When children come to school tired they are less resilient, have a shorter attention span, get frustrated easily and have a decreased ability to access their working memory, which is crucial to be able to learn at school.

“The children of Yarrabah are the future of Yarrabah and anything we can do to support them now will improve their chances of a happy and healthy future.”



Pics, poster design & layout by Christine Howes with special thanks to Rebecca Graham at the Yarrabah School.

Festival offers several paying gigs

The Yarrabah Band Festival, presented by Queensland Music Festival and the Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council (YASC), is on again on Saturday 3 November 2018 at Jilara Oval.

The community at-large is invited to participate in several capacities at what is a highlight of the year for the many thousands of people who have participated and performed over the years in this prestigious event.

This year's special guests are yet to be confirmed and will be announced soon.

Registrations for stall holders and paid security and event crew – who must be available from Friday 2 to Sunday 3 November – and performers must be in by the end of **NEXT WEEK (28 September)**.



We are inviting local **STALL HOLDERS** to register their interest by Friday 28 September to Lucrecia Willett on 0447 235 043 or lucrecia.willett@gyhsac.org.au.

Food, non-alcoholic beverages, art and info stalls are all encouraged to participate.

YASC will coordinate a series of sessions for those who wish to have a food stall and do not have their Temporary Food Stall Licence.

We are inviting individuals interested in obtaining their event **SECURITY** license to register their interest by Friday 28 September to Darren Birt at [Wugu Nyambil](mailto:darren.birt@wugunyambil.com.au) via darren.birt@wugunyambil.com.au

YASC will coordinate a series of training sessions for those who are successful in their application.

We are inviting local members of the Community to register their interest as **EVENT CREW** by Friday 28 September to Lucrecia Willett on 0447 235 043 or lucrecia.willett@gyhsac.org.au.

Event Crew will work with the Security, Site and Technical Team across a number of areas including parking and traffic management, cleaning, crowd control and event information.

We are inviting local **BANDS and ACTS** and those interested in **MC-ing** to register their interest by Friday 28 September to Elverina Johnson and Shaun Murgha.

Contact Elverina Johnson: 0451 090 458 / celmanagement1@gmail.com or Shaun Murgha: 0497 369 601 / shmurgha@yarrabah.qld.gov.au





2017 Reserves Grand Final pic by Dixie Hari

Yarrabah Seahawks Reserve Grade will play Southern Suburbs in the Cairns & District Rugby League grand final this coming Saturday...fly Guyula fly!!!

Gates open at 3pm

U19 Grand Final - 4pm

Reserve Grand Final - 5:30pm

A Grade Grand Final – 7pm

Ticket prices

Adults - \$12

Students/Aged Pensioner - \$5 (ID required)

Children under 5 - Free



Wiyi Yani
U Thangani

Women's Voices
SECURING OUR RIGHTS
SECURING OUR FUTURE



June Oscar AO

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Social Justice Commissioner



We want to hear from all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and girls about what is important to you

Women and girls - Come have your say!

Yarrabah

Thursday 27 September

10:00am to 2:00pm

Room 2, Training Centre

Noble Drive, Yarrabah

Lunch will be provided.

For more information and to register please email
wiyiyaniuthangani@humanrights.gov.au or call 02 9284 9600



YOU MAY NEED THESE NUMBERS!

Housing repair or plumbing (BAS)
1300 650 910

Noisy parties (Police Link) 131 444

Sewerage or water pot hole
1300 YARRABAH

Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council

1300 9277 2224

JENEVE FRIZZO

ESTATE LAW

We assist families who require Letters of Administration on Intestacy for superannuation claims, and similar matters.

Please contact Jeneve Frizzo 07 4084 0570



Yarrabah News is published fortnightly by the Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council and edited by Christine Howes. Members of the Yarrabah community and local organisations are welcome to submit birthdays, community information, pics, yarns and letters to the Editors.

Don't forget you can follow us on Facebook!

Yarrabah News is online at <http://www.chowes.com.au>

For more information contact Christine on 0419 656 277 or yarrabahnews@chowes.com.au

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