



Yarrabah News

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The Library Board of Queensland visited the Yarrabah Knowledge Centre last week.

The delegation included Chair Professor Andrew Griffiths, Professor Tom Cochrane AM, Professor Marek Kowalkiewicz, Bob Shead, Malcolm McMillan and author Dr Anita Heiss.

They were accompanied by State Librarian and CEO Vicki McDonald, Public Libraries and Engagement Executive Director Louise Denoon and Lead for Indigenous Services Louise Hunter.

“The Library Board members got to see the Yarrabah Knowledge Centre firsthand and see the fabulous work being facilitated from the YKC by Pammy Mundraby,” Ms Hunter said.



Library board enjoys IKC

Radio station just weeks away

It’s been a long time coming, but Yarrabah will soon have it’s own radio station - Black Star Yarrabah - operating out of the Indigenous Knowledge Centre.

“It’s been a really long time for people over here, and the community is growing all the time,” Acting Black Star Manager Jim Remedio (pictured on the right with cabinet maker Steve) said.

The station will join the Black Star network, who have set up nearly 20 similar stations across the Gulf, Cape and Tablelands.

“There’s a lot of development work here in Yarrabah, and they really need to have some kind of information service of their own,” he said.

“They will get all their support services from us, all their music content and their use, weather, all of that will come through.

“As you can see, we’ve just started today, we just measured up to put in the desk and furniture.

“We’re working on a time frame of about the end of July or mid-August to have it going.

“There are a few regulatory things to do first, and one of the things we want to do is move up higher so we can reach people further south that don’t get radio services.

“We will also be setting up a training program so we’ll have people on the right production skills and things like that.

“We’ve got a long way to go, but they’ve waiting a long time and I guess they want to do it right.”

IKC Coordinator Pam Mundraby said it was an honour to host the station, at least for now.

“It will be great,” she said.

The Black Star network is owned and run by an organisation called QRAM - Queensland Remote Aboriginal Media (<https://qram.com.au/blackstar/>)





Housing crisis strategy consultations set to progress through the community

Late last week Yarrabah Leaders' Forum met with Department of Public Works and Housing and Andre Grant from the Centre for Appropriate Technologies (CAT) to progress consultation around the Yarrabah Homeless and Housing Strategy developed by consultant Kate Steel.

YLF members at the meeting included coordinator Cleveland Fagan, as well as local board members and CEOs from Seahawks, Gurriny, Gindaja, Mutkin, northern and southern PBCs, Council and others.

Mayor Ross Andrews said it was a positive meeting.

"A lot of positive feedback was received," he said.

"There are plans for more consultative workshops with block holders and others around the community.

"We hope, by the end of this year, to have a strategy with an appropriate action plan, all evidence-based, ready to present to Governments on Yarrabah's housing crisis."



Yarrabah's Youth Leisure Centre has been opened by Mayor Ross Andrews and young people from 15-25-years-old. Council CEO Shaun Murgha and Cyprian Moser said the Centre was there to complement what the PCYC does. "And to work jointly with the other organisations like Gurriny, Gindaja, Vocational Partners, Youth Helpers and Mentors, mental health and others."



Mental Health First Aid is on the agenda for the next few days for people in Yarrabah who have been funded by the Prime Minister and Cabinet to attend training sessions throughout May and June.



ANZAC stories caught and kept

In 2016 Council engaged historian Geoff Wharton to research biographies of Yarrabah people who served in the First World War, fought more than a century ago.

Mr Wharton said his quest for information started from an incomplete list about eight names and took him to archives and libraries at Cairns, Townsville, Brisbane, Canberra, Sydney and Melbourne.

"I also made email contacts as far away as Darwin, Perth, Scotland and Wales," he said.

At this year's ANZAC Day service he spoke about the results of his research and provided an exhibition of 14 veterans' portraits to be kept permanently by the Yarrabah RSL Sub Branch.

"As well as five non-indigenous mission staff and two missionary's sons, biographies of seven Indigenous soldiers have been compiled," he said.

"These include Privates Jack Baker and Arthur Murdock who served in infantry battalions on the Western Front in Europe and Troopers Harry Doyle, Valentine Hare, David Molloy, William Nicholld (Nicholls) and Jack Pollard who served in light horse regiments in the Palestine campaign."

Mr Wharton's talk was introduced by Uncle Richard Pollard, who wore replicas of the service medals issued to his late father, Trooper Jack Pollard, "A" Squadron, 11th Light Horse Regiment.

The project was supported by a Department of Veterans' Affairs Saluting Their Service grant.

Tribal Warrior crew set to sail



A big week of training has been followed this week by an even bigger 10-12 days of sailing to Sydney for a crew of 10 local would-be mariners.

Tribal Warrior's training vessel, The Coral Trekker, captained by TAFE teacher

Kippa Zechariah (pictured below with Mala Neal), sailed from Sydney to Magnetic

Island with a crew of 11 Kooris on board who were replaced by a new crew of 10 who boarded from Palm Island about two weeks ago.

The Palm Island/Mission Beach/Tully/Cardwell crew island-hopped to Cairns before camping with Mandingalbay Yidinji Rangers at Djunbunji for the less hands-on aspects of their training with the soon-to-be crew members from Yarrabah.

The week before the big sail finished last Friday with a day of fire training and rescue work carried out in the PCYC pool.

Crew member Mala Neal said it was a great opportunity.

"Opportunities are coming for our community, a jetty is not too far away and hopefully it's a stepping stone," he said.

"We've been looking forward to this, I think the youths have been very excited."

We'll have more pics and news in our next issue!



Interested in joining the SES?

Interested in signing up to be a member of the Yarrabah SES? Membership forms are available at the Works Office now, through Works & Infrastructure Manager Dawn Lake.

"I have membership forms," she said. "And SES are looking to hold an information and sign up day in the near future. "A public notice will go out once a date is set." SES training can include free courses towards several tickets, including chainsaw, fire fighting and water rescue.

Pictured above is SES member Henry Miller with Animal Management Officer Albert Sands and their chainsaw and below is Gurriny Yealamucka's Clay Mitchell, Mayor Ross Andrews, Qld Fire Service rep Shane Bickhoff, Yarrabah SES chief Andrew Garrett, QPS Sergeant Jason Smith, SES's James Gregg and Murray Hayton from Emergency Management.



Happy Mother's Day



Mother's Day lunch hosted by the PCYC

Family responsibility on the agenda

Conferencing, referral pathways and follow up services are all alternatives to the last resort of money management, members of the Hopevale Family Responsibility Commission (FRC) have told Yarrabah Shire Councillors, the Yarrabah Leadership Forum and the Justice Group over two recent meetings in the community.

Commissioner David Glasgow, who was at the most recent meeting, said these were just some of the ways a Yarrabah FRC model could help with school truancy and child safety issues in particular.

Aurukun, Hopevale, Doomadgee, Mossman Gorge



and Coen all have FRCs, some for more than a decade.

Members of the Hopevale FRC include Victor Gibson, Doreen Hart, Erica Deeral, Selina Bowen and Cheryl Cannon.

Another recent visitor, Queensland Integrity Commissioner Dr Nikola Stepanov (pictured left with Councillors and the CEO), was in Yarrabah last week to explain her new advisory role for Councillors. The Commissioner is an independent officer of the Queensland Parliament who is responsible for providing advice on integrity and ethics issues, and for maintaining the lobbyists register. Councillors can contact her for advice on conflicts of interest or other matters concerning them about their role as Councillor.



We're coming to Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council

Let us show you how to grow your super.

We'll talk about... **Monday 28 May 2018**
The 5 steps to sort your super. 7.30am Yarrabah Depot, Smoko room

We'll talk about...
Retirement. How it works and the options you have for a successful retirement. 3.00pm Yarrabah Depot, Meeting room

We'll be offering free, 30-minute consultations. To book your spot now call us on 1800 444 396.




Yarrabah News is published fortnightly by the Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council and edited by Jaeleen Geary & 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>

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