



Yarrabah News

PLEASE note there may be some images of deceased persons within this publication.

V3 Issue 18: OCTOBER 2019

Deputy Mayor commended for long service to community

The 123rd annual Local Government Association of Queensland was held in Cairns earlier this month, with 700 delegates from Brisbane to Boulia to Thursday Island, plus observers and exhibitors, 85 motions carried (16 unanimously) and 97 Indigenous Councillors in attendance.

The two-day meeting recognised long service by two Indigenous Councillors – Yarrabah Deputy Mayor Michael Sands and Wujal Wujal Mayor Desmond Tayley (15 years) and Palm Island Mayor Alf Lacey (19 years).

Also at the meeting Torres Shire Mayor Cr Vonda Malone successfully moved, “that the LGAQ write to the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) affirming the support of Queensland councils to the central tenets of the Uluru Statement From the Heart and conferring to ALGA the responsibility for ensuring effective representation of local government in the Federal Government’s response to the Statement.”

Ms Malone said it was an honour to put the motion forward.

“The motion was moved and presented by myself and seconded by Cr Karen Williams Mayor of Redland City Council...[and was] further supported by Mayor Tony Wellington, Noosa Shire Council,” she said on Facebook.

“This was an historic occasion with Queensland Councils publicly declaring their support for constitutional recognition of First Nations People.”

LGAQ chief executive Greg Hallam said the conference was the local government sector’s showcase, allowing civic leaders to discuss and debate issues and policy affecting a sphere of government with more than 40,000 staff and managing \$155 billion of community assets.

“Local councils are key drivers of regional economies and efficient managers of community interests,” he said. “This conference is where the level of government closest to the community gets together in big numbers to talk about its future. In that respect it is one of the most important annual gatherings in the Queensland policy calendar.”



Less dust!

The Bilma & Point Road reseal projects were done in partnership with Transport & Main Roads. Our local boys were commended for their tremendous job for the betterment of Yarrabah.

Safety message high priority for YASC



YASC Safety Officers Les Bassani and Leona Worrell have improved their methods for presenting information during Worksafe Team talks with the adoption of modern information delivery systems including, but not limited to, video presentations and infographics, CEO Leon Yeatman says.

“This has helped us to deliver our important Worksafe messages and best practice information in new formats with power point, video and data projection, to name a few,” he said.

“Team members are reminded they are Council’s most valuable assets.

“We expect high work standards but our Worksafe message is that each of us has a responsibility to keep personal safety in the forefront of our minds, not only for ourselves but for the rest of our team.”



[ABOVE] Queensland Minister for Health Steven Miles met with several organisations in Yarrabah last week, including Council, Gurriny Yealamucka Health Services, Mutkin Aged Care and Gindaja Healing and Treatment Association.

Mayor Ross Andrews said animal welfare was on top of the Council’s agenda with the Minister.

“We were looking for his support around animal welfare,” Cr Andrews said.

“So we were trying to get some investment and support around environmental public health for the community.”



Our own 2019 Dalari Fast 5s Netball Carnival winners after they beat Mareeba by 1 point in extra time in the Grand Final - well done Yarrabah!!! And an awesome first comp win at the community’s new netball courts behind the PCYC.



Federal Minister opens Youth Hub

Yarrabah community and Gurriny Yealamucka Health Services Aboriginal Corporation has celebrated the official opening of a new purpose-built Youth Hub it's hoped will be a game changer in terms of supporting young people.

Gurriny CEO Sue Andrews said they were fortunate to have Minister for Indigenous Australians, the Hon Ken Wyatt AM MP, to open the new facility.

Gurriny Chair David Baird said the new Hub was an important step for the organisation and Yarrabah.

"We are not only hopeful, we are confident we are progressing in the right direction," Mr Baird said.

"We are giving our youth something in the community they need, so they don't feel they are being left out or neglected, and it's something we want parents to get behind as well."

Yarrabah Mayor and Leaders' Forum chair Ross Andrews said with a youth population of over 50% the new building was central to the community's future.

"Yarrabah has a youth population of over 50%, so we have a very young population and our population growth is increasing every year, so having a facility like this means a lot, not only to the organisation and the community but to our kids," Cr Andrews said.

"I'd like to commend Gurriny's



Back Row: Gurriny Yealamucka Health Services chair David Baird; local MP Curtis Pitt; Youth Wellbeing Coordinator Tamar Patterson; Yarrabah Mayor Ross Andrews; Front Row: Youth Wellbeing worker Paul Neal; CEO Suzanne Andrews; Elder Gwen Schrieber; youth Bernice Yeatman and Minister for Indigenous Australians, the Hon Ken Wyatt AM MP

Youth Wellbeing Coordinators Paul Neal and Tamar Patterson for stimulating that interest in our youth by having their youth forum every year, listening to what they had to say, and supporting and encouraging them.

"These kids are the future of our community and we all have to invest time and

effort into making them leaders."

Mr Neal said the Hub – with its kitchen, 'chill out' spaces, homework or study areas and meeting rooms – was what youth had asked for at their annual forums.

"This is what the youth asked for and the way we see this is they finally got to have a voice," Mr Neal said.

"They wanted a space of their own that they could feel was theirs and any programs we run from here will be what they ask for.

"I guess it's one of those success stories of 'dreams do come true' and I hope the youths take it on to the fullest.

"We want them to take ownership, we want to get the 18-25s who are out of school utilising this place while the young ones are in school.

"After school it can be

a place for homework as well as recreational things, we've got PlayStation for them, DVDs, Blue Ray, and tables to seat about 12 people.

"We want to see them building their networks, self-confidence and self-esteem – it's all about them knowing their worth."

Mrs Patterson said it was very much about the youths.

"Today is about the youth of Yarrabah and how Gurriny and our community can support them," she said.

"Our Wellbeing Team is about working with everyone, not just our own team, but the clinicians and the whole of the rest of Gurriny to deliver the best services we can to our community.

"All of us are keen to deliver and today is about what our youth have been saying for a long time."





PILLAR 1: SAFE COMMUNITY

We want our community to be safe and free of crime through enforcement, early detection and intervention, and holding parents and children accountable for their actions.

PILLAR 2: EMPLOYED COMMUNITY

We want everyone to be able to earn a living to look after their families.

PILLAR 3: SMART COMMUNITY

We want people have the capacity to choose a life that they want.

PILLAR 4: SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

We want to have the infrastructure we need to support our community.

PILLAR 5: HEALTHY COMMUNITY

We want our community free of disease.

PILLAR 6: FOUNDATIONAL SUPPORT STRUCTURES

We want to have the foundations to support each of the Pillars.

Our Vision: ONE mob: ONE fire: ONE journey

Our Mission: Create a healthy, educated, safe and sustainable community through respecting people, culture and community.

Our Core Values: united, accountable, integrity, courage.

Our Commitment to Each Other:

1. Respect people, culture and country
2. Put our people first
3. Take community on the journey
4. Resources to members first
5. Work collectively for the best interest of our community
6. Be accountable for everything we do
7. Be able to measure and evidence our impact and achievements



Standing room only at Brisbane YLF meeting

The Yarrabah Leaders' Forum (YLF), including youth and Elder representatives, were in Brisbane for two days earlier this month, to present their case to a high powered group of Ministers, MPs, Director-Generals and Deputy Director-Generals.

YLF Chair Mayor Ross Andrews said they presented to a full house representing every government department.

"People couldn't get a seat around the table," he said.

"We had two days to present our model – our strategic plan, which is represented by six pillars – thanks to support from our Government Champion Minister for Innovation and Tourism Industry Development Kate Jones, our DG Community Champion Tony Cook and local MP Curtis Pitt."

Minister Jones said face to face meetings were important.

"It's important that leaders get the

chance to speak face-to-face," she said.

"The Yarrabah Leadership Forum gave us a deeper insight into the challenges and great opportunities ahead for Yarrabah.

"The Yarrabah community were able to speak directly with senior state government officials about the pillars they have identified to build a stronger community including safety, employment, education, sustainability and health."

Cr Andrews said their presentations appeared to go down well.

"Our plans are pretty ambitious," he said.

"What we presented was the

enormous amount of work we've done so far in terms of listening to our community about their expectations and planning our moves from there.

"We are well ahead of their current 'co-design' framework of thinking under the Thriving Communities agenda because we are well ahead in terms of working on a plan, and they have acknowledged that.

"We need to look at how we can align with the Government's thinking around Thriving Communities and we need to figure out how we can work with the machinery of government."

He said the community's unified leadership had paid dividends on several levels.

"Governments, including our own local governments, used to be strong on silo thinking and the old 'from the womb to the tomb' way of Council's doing business, as in the old ACC days," he said.

"But these days having a unified leadership voice means we can work together on common issues we are facing as a whole community.

"So as a Council we've managed to devolve working on some of

those issues to those who are best equipped to manage them at local grassroots level.

"So health, education, alcohol, drugs – Council has a role to play, but it doesn't have to be a lead role, we can work on these issues together because of the relationships we have developed, and now the strategic plan we have come up with."

He said the six pillars of the community's strategic plan was indicative of a 'dependency matrix' between each of the sectors.

"You can't be healthy unless you have a house, you can't get the kids to school unless you have a house, you can't have a safe community unless mom and dad's got a job," he said.

"Our dependency matrix is about where pillar one is dependent on pillar two and so on, so it's all interconnected and then.

"We did some really pretty analytical work on it all and the government is impressed with our model.

"Now we need to work hard with them to try and get some real investment in it and maximise our opportunities."

He said the next step was to bring the negotiation table back to Yarrabah and to continue working with the community in their ongoing series of summits and forums.

For more information see Yabber News at <http://www.chowes.com.au>



RSAS marks first year of business

The first week of this month marked the first year anniversary for the Yarrabah RSAS Team.

Over the past year the team has supported families, made health referrals, assisted students with transition to class and assisted in the overall improvement of school attendance.

This month three new Student Engagement Officers joined the team so a big welcome to Sherryn Richards, Leslie Bassani and Barbara Thomas.

By increasing the capacity of our team we are able to better support students at Yarrabah State School to get to school and engage in their classes.

This term our focus is on students in Years Prep to 2.

School attendance in the early years sets the foundation for lifelong learning, behaviour and health.

Your child's experiences at school in the early years shapes their brain and their capacity to learn, get along with others and respond to daily challenges.

If you require RSAS support please contact our office on 4056 0662.



Touring exhibition big hit at Arts conference

Two Jabu Birriny artists - Philomena Yeatman and Eric Orcher – were the guests of arts and cultural development organisation 'Flying Arts Alliance' at the Arts Ablaze Regional Arts conference in the Kooralbyn Valley, near Brisbane, earlier this month.

Held on Mununjali country, Arts Ablaze was a state-wide arts conference and festival showcasing creative practice across regional Queensland.

Flying Arts Alliance said they were delighted to host the pair.

"Yarrabah Art Centre Manager Darrell Harris was also our guest as part of the residency of the Jabu Birriny (land + sea) exhibition at the Conference," Exhibition Program Lead Lisa Beilby said.

"The week's activities began with a wonderful Welcome to Country and

afternoon tea for the Yarrabah touring exhibition artists, hosted by Mununjali Elders and community members before the Arts Ablaze Conference began the next day.

"The greetings were warm and young people from community performed a welcome dance."

The week-long event brought together key creatives from diverse locations including Yarrabah, the Moa Islands, Longreach, Woorabinda, Brisbane,

Bundjalung and Quandamooka countries.

"Artists and cultural practitioners enjoyed exhibitions and site specific installations, live performances in fashion, dance, theatre and music and shared critical conversations and active work-shops around the transformational properties of connecting



and creating culture through the arts," Producer Alicia Melonie Jones said.

She said Arts Ablaze was a collaborative effort made possible through the Regional Arts Services Network and Regional Arts



CEO to play for FNQ Allstars

Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council CEO Leon Yeatman will be lining up with former State of Origin and Australian Test players to play in a charity rugby game – the Tom Tassell Memorial Cup – at Barlow Park in Cairns next month.

The game will play out between Australian Legends and FNQ Allstars teams at Barlow Park on Saturday 23 November.

The Australian Legends will feature big name former internationals such as Matt Bowen, Cliff Lyons, Ben Hannant, John Hopoate, Terry Matterson, Noel Goldthorpe, Chris Walker and others.

The FNQ Allstars Team will be coached by local legend Lionel Williamson and include Dallas Johnson, Brenton Bowen, Ty Williams, Leon Yeatman, Brad, Jason & Kris Tassell, Chris Sheppard and more.



The game will raise funds for grassroots rugby league.

Mr Yeatman is a former Broncos, Easts Tigers, Cairns Cyclones and Yarrabah fullback player and has coached junior rugby league players in the community for many years.

From page 6...

Development Funding and independent producers, led by Scenic Rim Regional Council.

“During the conference Indigenous Art Centre Alliance (IACA) CEO Pam Bigelow was invited by the Mununjali Elders to present on a panel with IACA board members Darrell Harris and Eric Orcher to speak about how to set up an art centre,” Ms Jones said.

“They discussed the process and steps in setting up an art centre and approaches to obtain funding.

“There are about four groups of artists from south east QLD who are keen to formalise their organisations structure and be able to offer

the benefits of an art centre.

“The conference was very impressive and comprehensive of all of Queensland Arts Organisations.

“As always some great networking occurred, particularly with Indigenous artists in other parts of Queensland who would greatly benefit from access to IACA as a peak body and incorporation of an art centre.”

Mr Harris said many thanks were owed to all who welcomed the Yarrabah artists, and especially to Ms Jones for facilitating liaison over an excellent week of celebrations of Indigenous and non-indigenous arts on Mununjali Country.

For more information and links to live-streams and YouTube see <https://www.artsablaze.com.au/>

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council invites tenders for the supply of the following:



- YASC 2019-002 2019 – 2021 Provision of Professional Services
- YASC 2019-003 Supply and install Field Lighting at Jilara Oval to National Rugby League (NRL) Standards in accordance with NRL Preferred Facility Guidelines (single contractor).

Tender documentation can be obtained from www.lgtenderbox.com.au.

Tenders close at 2pm on Monday 18th November 2019



YASC 2019 - 004

Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council invites tenders for the supply of the following:

Crisis Dashboard & Flood Tide Sensors

Tender documentation can be obtained from www.lgtenderbox.com.au

Tenders close at 2:00pm Monday 25th November, 2019.

Leon Yeatman
Chief Executive Officer

**Date Claimer for footy fans!
Saturday 7 December**

Palm Islander Telstan Sibley is keen to organise a possible re-boot of Xmas Cup between Yarrabah and Palm Island featuring an U18s, Women's and Men's comp. See the *Palm Island Voice* (289) online on 21 November for confirmation and more details!

Make Life Matter

JCU Indigenous Summer Pre-program

for Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students

SUNDAY 1 DECEMBER TO FRIDAY 13 DECEMBER 2019

James Cook University, Townsville

The Summer Pre-program is open to any Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students who completed Year 12 QCE or HSC requirements in 2019 and are looking to gain entry into JCU.

APPLY NOW: jcu.edu.au/ierc/summer-pre-program

APPLICATIONS CLOSE 12th NOVEMBER 2019

For further information contact ierc@jcu.edu.au



JAMES COOK UNIVERSITY AUSTRALIA

jcu.edu.au

Yarrabah Service Providers Day



**Wednesday 13 November
10am-1pm @ Djendji**

This year our service providers include:

- IBA - Home Lending
- Thrive
- Remote Home Ownership - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Unit
- Wugu Nyambil
- Office of Fair Trading | Department of Justice and Attorney-General
- United Care
- Aged & Disability Advocacy Australia
- Human Services
- Australian Competition & Consumer Commission
- VPG
- Mission Australia
- ICAN
- Registry of Births/Deaths/Marriages
- ATO
- RSAS Team
- Q Super
- Energy & Water Ombudsman Qld [EWOQ]
- Gindja Treatment & Healing Centre

Come and have a yarn!

For more information contact YASC Community Services Executive Manager Vicki Jones to book their spot on 4056 9120 or via VJones@yarrabah.qld.gov.au

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Please contact Jeneve Frizzo 07 4084 0570

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: Wugu Nyambil

Notice is hereby given of Wugu Nyambil's Annual General Meeting which has been rescheduled from October. Details are as follows:

Time: **3pm Thursday 21 November 2019**

Venue: Yarrabah Leaders Forum Office, Rural Transaction Centre Building, Noble Drive, Yarrabah.

For further information, or to RSVP, contact Kimberley Gillan k.gillan@wugunyambil.com.au or call 4056 0500 by 19 November 2019.



Yarrabah News is published monthly by the Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council and edited by Christine Howes.

Don't forget you can follow us on Facebook!

Yarrabah News has a monthly print run of 50 hard copies (with thanks to The Plan Man) and 1,215 'likes' on Facebook. We accept paid advertising. For rates and/or more information contact the Editor, Christine Howes, on 0419 656 277 or at chowes@westnet.com.au
Yarrabah News is online at <http://www.chowes.com.au>

Our NEXT DEADLINE will be:

**Thursday
28 NOVEMBER
FOR PUBLICATION IN
EARLY DECEMBER**