



Award-winning recovery

Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council has won the 2025 Queensland Resilient Australia Local Government Award for their *Wujal Wujal Master Plan Review*, which was developed with Meridian Urban and Water Technology after the devastating floods from ex-Tropical Cyclone Jasper in December 2023.

The community also received recognition in the business category for the *Wujal Wujal Rising: A Community-first Recovery Project*, managed by The Yellow Company, and will advance as a finalist for the National Resilient Australia Awards, to be announced later this month in Melbourne.

Microgrid plan a first in Queensland



Queensland's first community-controlled solar and battery microgrid was launched in Wujal Wujal in early September and will start construction in the new year.

The project aims to enhance power supply and reliability, providing more affordable, renewable energy generated from the community's own hydroelectric and solar power resources for Wujal Wujal and Degara.

Local member David Kempton said it was exciting to see.

"To be self sufficient in power is a huge step toward greater autonomy for the next generation who are eager to break the dependence cycle," Mr Kempton said.

The Wujal Wujal Council thanked the Douglas Shire, Cook Shire and Jabalbina Yalanji Aboriginal Corporation for their collaboration.



Holidays an exercise in culture and sport

The school holidays were a fantastic time for our community, with cultural awareness activities and exploring history, language, music, and stories with Cultural Advisor Billy Harrigan.

Children enjoyed using educational tools at the IKC in the mornings from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm, before heading over to the community hall and oval for some footy and touch rugby.

There was also plenty of excitement as the kids joined in a basketball session with Member for Leichhardt, Matt Smith, who officially opened the new basketball court.

Another big thank you to NRL Cairns for supporting the Wujal Wujal School Holiday Program and visiting on 23 September for a fun day of footy clinics and games.



Rodeo fun celebrates community resilience

Wujal Wujal Rodeo – ‘Kickin’ up Dust in the Rainforest’ – was a great success, bringing more than 1800 people together in a celebration of community resilience.

On behalf of Mayor Alister Gibson, thank you to everyone involved in planning and managing the event, our Council staff, community members, sponsors, families and friends,

including the Bloomfield Residents group. Huge thank you to all the Riders and Borghero Mini Buckers for organising the competition. We are already planning for 2027 Rodeo.



JUTE's visit lifts spirits

Cairns-based JUTE Theatre company's Sam Gray (Sydney) and actors Maci-Grace Johnson (Wiradjuri, Yorta Yorta, Fiji) and Maurice Sailor (Torres Strait) visited Wujal Wujal last month to run some after-school workshops.

Their 'Encore for Innovation' tour blended science, theatre, storytelling and entrepreneurship to ignite STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) confidence and celebrate First Nations creativity.

"It was fantastic to have such an amazing team of people entertain our children, youths and family for the afternoon," Community Services Manager Kesa Strieby said.

"The two-hour program was lots of fun."



Queensland Seniors Month

For this year's Seniors Month, we continue to support our Elders and seniors in Wujal Wujal Degara and Ayton.

We honour our Elders who have passed on with our sincere condolences to families.

May their loved ones rest in eternity, love and peace.

Psalm 46: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea. Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof."



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Cook Shire Council

MEMBER LOGIN



Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council

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