



Yarrabah News

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Yarrabah Leaders Group working on several fronts

Yarrabah Leaders Forum has been working hard formulating their ideas for strategic projects around the community they hope will change lives and build futures.

Mayor Ross Andrews said development and push for several projects around the community was ongoing.

“Everything from climate change to economic development, housing, town and master planning, employment, culture, and education is under our microscope,” he said.

“Council is working hard to support and facilitate wherever we can, but the push is for community-driven ideas to come to fruition. This is all about what we all want to see for our families and children in terms of wellbeing and prosperity.”

He said one of the biggest battles, yet to be won, was for Yarrabah to be recognised as remote.

“The Australian Government’s methodology doesn’t account for the poor accessibility and socio-economic needs of the Yarrabah community,” he said.

“We accept that because of our proximity to Cairns but we’ve argued we should be provided with a unique status of opportunity costs that more accurately reflects our circumstances.

“Our needs are definitely on a par with those of far more remote communities than ours. Using Australian Bureau of Statistics criteria, Yarrabah is consistently recorded as amongst the poorest of Local Government Areas (LGAs) in Australia despite its non-remote status.

“As with many of our Aboriginal communities, the reason for this is no doubt to do with the historic economic exclusion of Yarrabah as a mission/government controlled settlement, and a

failure since those times, to address our needs in terms of disadvantage.

“To pretend people in Yarrabah are somehow more connected or free and able to access Cairns than people in other similar communities is disingenuous.

“Access is more about socioeconomic status than it is about proximity, as countless studies have demonstrated.”

Cr Andrews also said the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) had adopted an Urban & Regional Strategy as part of a National Indigenous Reform Agreement.

“The Strategy recognised that Indigenous people in ‘highly accessible’ areas also have need for special assistance,” he said. The interesting point to note about the Strategy is it was designed to cater for Indigenous peoples in urban settings and as such Yarrabah was excluded.

“We were also excluded from the Remote Service Delivery Strategy.

“So in effect Yarrabah has been considered too much like a ‘remote’ community to be included in the Urban and Regional Strategy; and too ‘urban and regional’ to be included in the Remote Service Delivery Strategy.

“On this basis, it could be argued that Yarrabah already has a special status - one of strategic neglect.”

He said on the positive side, they were also working on housing and economic issues on several fronts.

**CIAF success →
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pics
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“The Burri Gummin Affordable Housing Project, Dr Steve Burrows’ ‘Housing Needs in Yarrabah’ investigation and even the feasibility study into a new business centre are all contributing to us being able to move forward as a community,” he said.

“We are also looking at an Economic Development Queensland (EDQ) assessment of development prospects in retail and community needs in Yarrabah.”

He said the assessment had included a review of the economic and demographic base of the community, particularly looking at factors which might drive retail expenditure, retail floor space, community facilities and investment factors.

“They also looked into the difference between provisions laid out by the Queensland Government Social Planning Guidelines and what was actually provided to Yarrabah,” he said.





ABOVE: Yarrabah RFS officers Selina Ansey and Finanin Richards at QAS NAIDOC celebrations in Kedron, Brisbane.

NAIDOC 2017



Pics by Jaeleen Geary

CIAF boost for Yarrabah art

This year's CIAF has showcased Yarrabah artists' best work in fashion, fabric, pottery and painting at the event's fashion parade, art gallery and market place.

"Yarrabah Artists Valmai Pollard, Philomena Yeatman, Edna Ambrym & Ruben Ambrym were very blessed to see their handmade prints - pictured on this page - on the runway with deadly models," Yarrabah Arts & Cultural Precinct Manager Darrell Harris said.

"Absolutely a great night. A big thank you to the designer Shannon Brett and a congratulations to the artists in their work, well done."

Artist Valmai Pollard said CIAF was great for putting Yarrabah "on the map".

"It's been good this year, with the fashion show mainly," she said. "The dancing and the show was spot-on."

"We sold a lot too."



Pics by Christine Howes





GURRINY YEALAMUCKA
HEALTH SERVICE ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

Wet Tropics Plan Review Workshop Rescheduled

DATE/TIME: Saturday 29 July 10am - 4.15pm – *REGISTRATION FROM 9am*
PURPOSE: To discuss the draft Aboriginal submission for the Wet Tropics Plan review (for the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area).
LOCATION: Cairns – *CONTACT THE AUTHORITY FOR DETAILS*
ATTENDEES: The Authority can provide support for two appropriate representatives from your RNTBC or registered native title application to come along to this forum.
RSVP: Wednesday 26 July 2017
Eli Taylor at the Authority on Ph 4241 0505 to confirm your attendees and to discuss any specific travel support needs.

Extension to closing date for making submissions regarding the Wet Tropics Management Plan review

The closing date for registered native title bodies corporates, registered native title applicants, NQLC and CYLC to make submissions has been extended to 5:00pm Monday 7 August 2017.

The Gurriny Gym Program is undergoing a review and for the next four weeks can only be accessed during working hours.

The gym is expected to re-open during the 3rd week in August.

For any queries relating to gym access contact Lucrecia Willett or Ruth Fagan on 4056 0005.

RESPECT YOUR NEIGHBOURS

RESPECT THE ELDERLY

RESPECT THE CHILDREN

RESPECT THE SICK

HONOUR YOUR TENANCY AGREEMENT

Keep your music down so everyone gets a good night sleep.
Turn your music off at 8pm on a school night

If you are losing sleep report the noisy address to Police Link on 131 444 (anytime) or to Council Reception on 40569120 or 1300 Yarrabah (1300 92772224) during office hours 8.15am to 4.00pm

We need your help, Council cannot combat the problem unless it is reported.

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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 notices, pics, yarns and letters to the editor.

For more information contact Jaeleen on 4056 9120 or Christine on 0419 656 277.

You can advertise in Yarrabah News!

Page Sponsorship: (1cm or 18pt high banner across nominated page): \$120
Quarter A4 Page: \$250 + GST Half A4 Page: \$350 + GST Full A4 Page: \$550 + GST
Ads are to be booked by no later than 5pm on deadline day and all material submitted no later than COB the next day. Print approval required by Monday COB. Don't forget you can follow us on Facebook!

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

E-mail JGeary@yarrabah.qld.gov.au or yarrabahnews@chowes.com.au

OUR NEXT DEADLINE IS
Thursday 3 August
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Thursday 10 August

