



Yarrabah News

V2 Issue 11 THURSDAY 14 June 2018



Band festival highly commended



See p6 for more!

Locals shine in DV Awareness night concert

Personal stories in songs to raise community awareness about the social and personal impacts of domestic violence were part of a Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month community event held late last month at the PCYC.

The night began with songs from two young girls, Dante Murgha and Felicity Schrieber, followed by Sister Trio (Deline Briscoe, Merindi Schrieber and Elverina Johnson) sharing powerful stories and sweeping three part harmonies.

The women of Austronesia Choir came up next, sharing their stories of hope and overcoming struggle by blending a mix of Polynesian, Melanesian and Indigenous voices and coming together as one.

Last on the card was Naomi Wenitong, who started with her own personal account of Domestic Violence and her fight to break free of its clutches.

She then sang some of her Shakaya and Last Kinnection hits, getting the crowd bouncing.

Performer Elverina Johnson said there was a good turnout for the event.

"It was great," she said. "A small, intimate crowd but a good turnout."

Organiser and PCYC FNQ Community Development Advisor Adrian Thomas said he wanted to thank Bernadette Thomas, who gave a rousing speech on behalf of Thrive Partners in Mental Wellness, Elverina Johnson, for working collaboratively with the PCYC to put the day together and Kris Hutchinson, for sound engineering, as well as the performers including Amos Thomas for his impromptu number, and all the volunteers (kids!) who helped set up.



Safe harbour for Yarrie sailors

Full story and more pics on pages 4-5



ABC Far North crosses the bump for Reconciliation Week

Kier Shorey and the ABC North breakfast team broadcast a series of live interviews from outside of the Yarrichino Cafe as part of Reconciliation Week on Thursday 31 May.

Those interviewed in a series of positive community stories included King Jabaan, Mayor Ross Andrews, Bishop Arthur Malcolm, members of the Yarrabah Leadership Forum and others.



Committee meets community on DV issues

Addressing issues of law and order in relation to domestic and family violence will make our community a safer place for everyone Yarrabah Leaders' Forum Executive Project Officer Cleveland Fagan says.

To that end, the Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council, Gurriny, Yarrabah Schools, Gindaja, Justice Group, Police, the Elders Group and the Yarrabah Leaders Forum met with members of the Queensland Government's Domestic and Family Violence Implementation Council late last month to hear about their role in addressing these issues across Queensland.

The DFVI Council was established to implement the recommendations of a report on domestic and family

violence which was accepted by the Queensland Government in September 2016.

Mr Cleveland said their approach was focused on three key areas: changing culture and behavior, integrated services and a strong justice system.

"While achieving the above will take time, the work that is being done by the Yarrabah Leaders Forum focuses on the five Pillars, one of which (Pillar 1: Law and Order) is the most

relevant to these issues," he said.

"While it is useful to have the Domestic and Family Violence Implementation Council working on these issues at a State level, how we deal with this in Yarrabah needs to be designed and delivered by us to make sure that it's going to work.

"It will require a community wide effort and while the road may be rocky, addressing these issues will make our community a safer place for everyone."



Croc found in local drain

Gungandji Rangers helping with maintenance and collection from several drain buddies around the community were surprised to find was a small crocodile lurking in one of the systems.

Thankfully it was just a toy, but the dangers of this and other rubbish ending up in our oceans and harming marine life was real enough, Gungandji-Mandingalbay Yidinji Peoples Prescribed Body Corporate Aboriginal Corporation Executive Officer Helen Tait said.

“This new and important role for the rangers includes regular maintenance and collection of data to understand the items that are flowing down the drains and how we can work with the community and local businesses to reduce these items at the source,” Ms Tait said.

“The rangers collected eight bags of rubbish from these drains last Thursday.

“Populous amongst the items they found were sausage roll and pie wrappers, lolly wrappers, chip packets, soft drink cans, straws and ka bluey icy pole wrappers.

“It is important that these items are disposed of properly and placed in bins to avoid these items flowing down the drains into the ocean or being carried by the wind into the ocean.

“The first and third beach drain buddies have been removed for maintenance as these were unfortunately destroyed by fire.

“We are also seeking to place these drain buddies in another location that isn’t affected by the incoming tides.”

Ms Tait said the next clean up will be this Saturday.

“We will reward you with a sausage sizzle if you come on down and give us a hand,” she said.

“And if you participate in two clean up events you can register for a free project shirt.”

She said the rangers were assisted by Laurissa Mundraby from Djunbunji Ltd, who will train the Rangers to record the data to pass onto Tangaroa Blue, where it will be inputted into the National Marine Debris Database.



Yarrabah Social Reinvestment Project
Respecting & Protecting our Paradise by the Sea

Community clean up event

PLEASE JOIN US ALL WELCOME
Saturday 16 June 2018
Time: 9:00am to 11:30am
Target Area: Mission Bay
Meeting Point: Esplanade - off Beach Street
Please bring a hat & wear covered walking shoes
Gloves, Bags & Sausage Sizzle provided
Project Leads: GMYPPBC & Tangaroa Blue
Project Partners:

WHAT GOES IN HERE...



COMES OUT THERE ->

Yarrabah crew finds safe h

A reduced crew of five sailed the Tribal Warrior's Coral Trekker into Sydney Harbour early in the morning late last month.

Captain Kippa Zechariah said those who had stayed on the boat should be "really proud of themselves".

"Absolutely fantastic, we were totally blessed the whole trip" he said.

"We never got any big swell or any big seas the whole trip and the winds ceased just before we got to Gladstone, which is where you want it to cease because that's the end of the reef.

"The wind dropped right off and we had a beautiful run all the way from Gladstone down to Bundaberg, then the Gold Coast, then down to Sydney, hardly any wind at all."

He said highlights for the crew included seeing Sea World on the Gold Coast and Morty and Andrew's mast climbing antics.

"They climbed the mast, that was a pretty big thing for them, going up in the rigging down the loft – Morty did that, so did Andrew," he said.

"Moments like that were a really big thing, they stayed up there for a fair while just taking it all in."

He said his own personal highlights included an incident just after they left Airlie Beach, with Shemmiel, who was determined to finish the trip.

"Shemmiel had sort of a boil on his leg about the size of an orange," he said.

"And he had another one on his arm and he asked if we could pray for him, which we did, me and a few of the other boys, and two days later he come up and showed me, and there was just a scar.

"It was just completely gone, I'm still getting over that, I can hardly believe it, that was a highlight for me.

"He's just a really thankful young bloke, a really faithful young bloke, and really cheerful too."

He said he would be back in Yarrabah/Cairns in August to help the boys finish their studies.

"I put in all their results through for their third run but we only did three subjects on the boat," he said. "There's another four subjects to do, so they've got to complete it, but I'll come up there and complete it with them."



Pics thanks to Kippa Zechariah, Andrew Miller and Erica Smith

harbour after successful sail





Yarrabah Band Festival wins ‘Highly Commended’ at Queensland Reconciliation Awards

Queensland businesses, community organisations, educational institutions and partnerships have been recognised for their commitment to reconciliation at an award ceremony for the 2018 Queensland Reconciliation Awards held in Cairns late last month.

This year’s pool of winners and finalists included a highly commended award for the Yarrabah Band Festival in the Community category.

Queensland Reconciliation Awards Ambassador Johnathan Thurston said all winners and finalists of the 2018 Awards should be congratulated.

This year’s Yarrabah Band Festival will be held on Saturday 3 November, 2018 in partnership with the Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council.

The annual event has grown since 2013 to become a key event for the community and Far North

Queensland, with audience of over 4000 in 2017.

The Festival will be a full day of live music, food stalls, local art and kids rides on the Jilara Football Oval in Yarrabah.

The origin of the Festival was founded on the Yarrabah Brass Band which was re-established with the assistance of QMF; it is part of a beloved history from the early brass bands in the late 1800s, to the 1950s and again today.

In recent years Yarrabah Band Festival has featured beloved Australian country music star Troy Cassar-Daley, ARIA Award winner Archie Roach, jazz sensation James

Morrison, and the host of Triple J’s House Party, KLP.

The 2018 line up will be announced soon.

The Queensland Reconciliation Awards are an initiative of the Queensland Government through the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, and the Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, and supported by BHP Billiton, Australia Post, Koori Mail and ABC Radio Brisbane and Queensland.

(Words with thanks to QMF - <https://qmf.org.au/yarrabah-band-festival-2/>)



Past and present students of the Remote Area Teacher Education Program (RATEP) program in Yarrabah will be delighted to hear our Co-Ordinator/Teacher based at Cairns TAFE, Ian Hodges, has won the 2018 Educator of the Year Award for TAFE Queensland. Ian’s award recognises his dedication to excellence during the ten years he has been involved with RATEP.

Coming up...

- Holiday June 18 - Foundation Day (in lieu of 17 June)
- JUNE 29 - 1 JULY - Yarrie Games: PCYC
- Holiday July 13 - NAIDOC Day
- Holiday July 20 - Cairns Show
- Holiday 1 October - Queen’s B’day
- Holiday 31 October - DOGIT Day
- Holiday 25 December - Christmas
- Holiday 26 December - Boxing Day



RSPCA commits to joint effort

RSPCA inspectors, including recently appointed Cairns-based RSPCA inspector Benjamin Newman and others, met with Yarrabah Council's Animal Management staff late last month.

"As the newly appointed Regional Inspector, I am really looking forward to resolving any animal welfare issues as a joint collaboration between the Council and RSPCA," Mr Newman said.

"I believe the meeting was a positive step in enhancing the relationship between both entities and working together with the community to address any local concerns in the interest of animal welfare."

Pictured above is YASC Operations Manager Preston Andrews and Animal Management Officer Albert Sands, RSPCA Inspector Shawn Jansen (Toowoomba) and Inspector Benjamin Newman (Cairns), YASC Animal Management Officer Milton Richards and Environmental Health Officer Stephen Canendo.



For several days over the past month consultants Craig Christensen and Birdy Bird (pictured here with Jason Fourmile) have been set up outside of the YarrarieChino Cafe to discuss re-development options for the Yarrarie CBD and Bishop Malcolm Park. For more information contact Council.

POSITION VACANT



HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER

The Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council is seeking a suitably qualified applicant for the position of Human Resources Officer.

This position is to provide assistance with human resources and industrial relations practices, which are consistent with the goals of the Council.

This includes recruitment, employee training and development, the Return to Work process of injured workers and dealing with disciplinary issues.

The Position Description is available on Council's website at <http://www.yarrabah.qld.gov.au/job-vacancies> or from Reception at Council's Administration Building

For further information and/or to discuss your eligibility to apply for this position, please contact Richard Wright, Human Resources Risk & Regulation Manager on 4056 9120 during business hours.

Applications close at 4.30pm on Monday 18th June 2018.



Wugu Nyambil, Yarrabah's new employment service will be commencing in July, pictured crossing the t's and dotting the i's for the new entity was Cr Ian Patterson, Duncan Charmers, Murray Lehmann, Department of Jobs Secretary Kerri Hartland, Mayor Ross Andrews, Janelle Menzies, Cr Cedric and Cleveland Fagan. More in our next issue!

Did you know...the Council's housing team can set up a payment plan to help you catch up on your rent?

Did you know...if you set up a payment plan you'd be helping Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council lobby for money for housing in Yarrabah?

You probably do know...the Federal and State Governments won't take our calls for more housing seriously while we have outstanding rent from Social Housing Tenants.

You probably don't know... Council has \$1.54 million in outstanding rent and that amount is increasing by about \$25K per month.

If you are... just one of our 197 tenants in arrears, please see the housing team ASAP so we can fix this!

NOTICE OF GENEALOGY WORKSHOP



Jabalbina Yalanji Aboriginal Corporation is holding workshops on and off country to provide the opportunity for Eastern Kuku Yalanji Bama to either retrieve their genealogy, update their genealogy or make inquiries with anthropologist Kevin Mayo. Kevin Mayo will be conducting updates on our system in order to ensure our genealogy database is correct and that Genealogies are up to date. Genealogy reports can be printed on the day at the workshop at no cost. **Please note, you can not request genealogies for other people. You will only be provided your own. This is an evasion of privacy.**

We encourage all Bama to attend one of the following workshop:

Yarrabah
Friday, 22nd June 2018
Training Room
56 Sawmill Road, Yarrabah QLD 4871
10:00 AM

Morning tea will be provided on the day. For further information, please do not hesitate to contact Saisha at the Jabalbina Office on 07 4098 3552 or email ntradmin@jabalbina.com.au.

"Yalanji warra muruku junkurrjimaka bamangka bubuku"

Yalanji people stand strong together for our people and our land

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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 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 Jaeleen on 4056 9120 or JGeary@yarrabah.qld.gov.au or Christine on 4049 656 277 or yarrabahnews@chowes.com.au

OUR NEXT DEADLINE IS
Thursday
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