



# Yarrabah News

V2 Issue 7 THURSDAY 19 April 2018



## Housing issues confirmed

There should be no surprise an in-depth analysis of Yarrabah's housing stock has confirmed significant overcrowding and homelessness issues in our community.

In response the Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council (YASC) has endorsed a draft Housing and Homelessness Community Framework which will now go through an extensive consultation period.

The Framework is the result of nine months of work by YASC Strategic Planner Kate Steele and Community Services Manager Vicki Jones.

The data Vicki, Kate and their teams have provided has prompted the State Government to take notice as their work has helped to clarify the extent of the problem.

This crisis affects everyone in the community, whether directly or indirectly, they said.

"We are seeing an increasing number

of homes breaking down due to the pressure of trying to house extended families," Mayor Ross Andrews said.

"Some homes have up to 20 people living in them which has a flow on effect to health, truancy, law and order within community.

"We are doing everything within our power to get Governments at all levels to understand and acknowledge the serious situation this community faces.

"As a Council we are unable to build more homes because we have no more available land within the DOGIT area to develop, yet our population is increasing and we already have a 21.5% homelessness rate."

He said the draft Housing and

Homelessness Community Framework was about having a strong, clear and concise purpose to present to Government.

"Our aim is to develop a 10-year action plan to empower the people of Yarrabah to ensure all our residents have the option of a safe, secure and functional home appropriate for their respective family lifestyles," he said.

"There will be a number of targeted consultations over the next few months where both PBC's, the Yarrabah Leadership Forum, and community members, including lease and block holders, will be asked to provide their input into the project."

Details will be forwarded out via various message boards.



## Making their holidays count!

Making their holidays count were Lataysha O'Keefe and Mathias Mundraby down at Oombunghi Creek last week.

SEE PAGES 3-5 for a full holiday round-up

Pic by Jaeleen Geary



## Drain buddies good to go

The Council road crew team, Gunggandji Rangers and the Djunbunji Ltd Land and Sea Ranger Program have been skilled up on how to maintain and empty the drain debris from eight new drain buddies installed around the community earlier this month.

Facebook posts celebrating the installation drew more than 60 likes on the Yarrabah Notice Board page, and national and international interest and comments on Tangaroa Blue page.

“The drain buddy installation was a huge success and has received lots of positive community interest and support,” Gunggandji-Mandingalbay Yidinji Peoples Prescribed Body Corporate Aboriginal Corporation Executive Officer Helen Tait said.

“Three drain buddies were connected to drains on the beach near the church and five drain buddy nets were installed inside street drains located on Noble Drive, Gribble Street and Reservoir Road.

“They will be monitored and emptied on an ongoing regular basis and data will be collected and recorded.”

She said the data would help them understand any positive impact on the local marine environment, and what differences the introduction of the plastic bag ban and container refund deposit scheme will make later this year.

“To assist us with our data recording we kindly ask that the nets or drain buddies are not interfered with, and any blockages or damage be reported to Council or the Gunggandji Rangers,” she said.

“We’d like to thank Aaron Horsey from the Cleanwater Group and Matt Wheldon from Tangaroa Blue.

“We also want to acknowledge the support received from the Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council and the Queensland Government to make this component of the Yarrabah Social Reinvestment Project a reality.”



# Holiday activities back on track after disappointing start



*NO MATTER what your speed there was something for everyone these past Easter Holidays. Left is the YASC Youth Team Shaun Murgha, Caitlin Mossman & Cyprian Mossman.*



School holiday activities were in full-swing across the community over the past few weeks with several organisations, including Council, offering positive and healthy activities for everyone from the very youngest to the very oldest of our young people.

The Yarrabah Youth Project had several things on including bubble soccer, guitar lessons and a games night.

The Indigenous Knowledge Centre (IKC) offered books, puppets and artwork while the PCYC offered a range of activities for all ages including cooking, music, swimming and basketball.

Guyula footy training sessions started as the new season gets underway, and free phone charges were available for youth up to the age of 25 for participating in Gurriny's Young Person's Health Check, with a free Deadly Choices t-shirt for those who follow up.

The only interruption to this flurry

of activity was a series of break-ins and vandalism which ruined the start of holiday period for several parents and kids after seven buildings were damaged over the Easter weekend.

It was believed a group of young people were responsible for the damage which caused the closure of the Council's Day Care and IKC for a couple of days.

Mayor Ross Andrews said the impact was widespread.

"The impact of this activity is more than the significant costs to fix up what's been done," he said.

"Staff who work there are affected and the forced closure means children and parents were also put out.

"On top of that, the estimated cost of the damage to the two council buildings alone has come in at \$20,000."

He said the town's Pharmacy and other local businesses were also damaged in the attack.

"I'd like to encourage everyone to participate in the activities we have on offer," he said.

"Many people have been involved in organising a huge range of activities to keep our young people busy and happy.

"I'd also like to remind parents to support our kids by knowing where they are, being aware of what's going on and encouraging them to make healthy and happy choices about their activities."

**MORE PICS NEXT PAGE...**



# Council provides tools for workplace health

Council workers from every department would be familiar with the regular ‘Tool Box’ Wednesday morning from 7.30am onwards.

Last week staff heard Workplace Health and Safety Queensland Safety Advocate Gavan McGuane talk about how his life changed in a matter of seconds after a completely preventable workplace incident.

At just 36-years-old Gavan’s world was turned

upside down when a hectic morning shift lead to a serious incident which result in the loss of all vision in one eye and 80 per cent of his vision in the other.

“Think about what it is you do and don’t put yourself at risk just to get something completed

five seconds fa  
been,” he said.

Gavin’s job now  
importance of w  
highlight the pe  
have on workers





*Pictured left: Purchasing Officer Lee Rodgers, Receptionist Kerry Bulmer, HR Manager Richard Wright, Governance & Policy Manager Avril Yeatman, Business Admin trainees, Vicky Underwood & Amanda Harris, Finance Manager Lucy Deemal, Workplace Health & Safety Manager Selina Ansey, Accounts Receivable/Bank Clerk Nulyssah Bulmer, Accounts Clerk Caroline Pike, Arts & Precinct Manager Darrell Harris, Audit Clerk Robyn Illman, Housing Manager Wayne AhWong, Post Office/QGAP Manager Tammy Singleton, Multimedia Officer/Yarrabah News editor Jaeleen Geary, Housing Officers Denise Richards, Michelle Patterson and Chynnai Kynuna, Community Services Manager Vicki Jones, Creditors Clerk Lucy Yeatman, artist Eric Orcher, Payroll Officer Vema Harris and Safety Advocate guest speaker Gavan McGuane.*

## Health and safety Talk Sessions' held every

...ter than it would have otherwise

...w is to increase awareness of the  
workplace health and safety, and  
personal impacts that an injury can  
...s, their families and their colleagues.

# Holiday fun - guaranteed!



*EVERN local MP Curtis Pitt was excited to be get amongst the Indigenous Knowledge Centre's holiday program over the Easter Break.*

*Everyone was welcome to come and read, watch videos, listen to music or get online... the whole world was waiting!*

*IKC coordinator Pamela Mundraby is also pictured below with her happy charges Don't forget to come and be part of the fun over the next holidays this winter - there's bound to be something for everyone!*



# Training and rehearsals for Yarrarie Games underway!

And it will be Gold! Silver! and Bronze! in Yarrabah in June as the first - and likely only - Yarrarie Games get underway in June this year.

Yarrabah's own PCYC will host the Games on behalf of the Council from Friday 29 June to Sunday 1 July.

It's going to be big!

"The Yarrarie Games is being run to give the people of Yarrabah an opportunity to participate in a large sporting event in line with the current Commonwealth Games being held on the Gold Coast," Sergeant Andrew Guest said.

"There will be an opening ceremony and traditional indigenous games on Friday June 29.

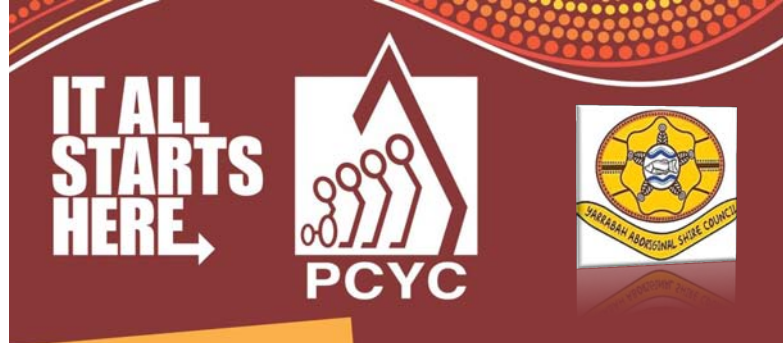
"Saturday June 30 will be an athletics carnival held at Jilara Oval and Sunday July 1st will be a Swimming Carnival at the Yarrabah Pool."

He said all ages from under-12s to Open will be invited to compete in athletics, track and field, including traditional spear throwing, and swimming events.

"Training has already started with athletics coaching on Wednesday afternoons at Jilara Oval from 3:30-5:30pm and swimming coaching from 3:30pm-5:30pm at the Yarrabah Pool on Fridays," he said.

"All competitors must have attended at least two training sessions if they wish to compete.

"Competitors under the age of 18 will require a consent form to compete and Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals will be awarded for first, second



## YARRARIE GAMES ATHLETICS & SWIMMING TRAINING



Athletics Training, Wednesday Afternoon's from 3-6pm at Jilara Oval  
Swimming Training, Friday Afternoon's from 3-6pm at Aquatic Centre



Australian Government



Queensland Government

### Friday 29th June

Opening Ceremony and Traditional Indigenous Games @ Jilara Oval

### Saturday 30th June

TRACK & FIELD @ Jilara Oval: 100M Sprints; 200M Sprints; 400M Sprints; 800M Run; 1500M Run; Shot Putt; Long Jump; Discus; and, Traditional Spear Throwing.

### Sunday 1st July

SWIMMING & Closing Ceremony @ Aquatic Centre: 25M and 50M Freestyle; 25M and 50M Backstroke; 25M and 50M Breaststroke; and, All Age Relay.

*Age Divisions: Under 12 years; 13 & 14 years; 15 & 16 years; Open.*

and third place in each event.

"This event is most likely to be a one off and will not be held again in Yarrabah.

"It is an exciting opportunity to be a part of history."

Contact Andrew, Mat De Rose or Noeline Gordon at the Yarrabah PCYC for more information.



YASC is proud to support business administration trainees Vicky Underwood & Amanda Harris (left) as they undertake their studies at TAFE. The two are working across all the Council's departments.



As part of two projects under Works for Queensland Council is installing 70 driveways for social housing throughout the community. Pictured here on the job is Bradley Sands, Sean Davidson, Peter Schrieber & Ross Maloney.



Pics: Jaeleen Geary & Christine Howes



## New Australia Post services at Yarrabah Post Office

Yarrabah Post Office now offers a range of convenient Australia Post services including:

- ✔ Post Billpay\*
- ✔ Bank@Post\*
- ✔ Money Orders\*
- ✔ Postage stamps and packaging material
- ✔ Load&Go Reloadable Visa prepaid cards\*
- ✔ Gift Cards

Yarrabah Post Office continues to offer services including Parcel Collection, Mail Hold and Mail Redirection.

**Drop Into Yarrabah Post Office, 56 Sawmill Road to ask how we can help.**

**Open Monday to Friday  
9am – 12pm and 1pm – 4pm**



\*See reverse for terms and conditions.



## Federal reps impressed with five pillar plan

The Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet's Regional Manager Andrew Hewitt and two officers representing Senator Nigel Scullion recently met with Council to advise us on the Federal Government's position in relation to the National Housing Partnership.

They were extremely happy to hear about the great work the Yarrabah Leadership Forum was doing towards developing a 'five pillar' framework for tackling cross-the-board community issues.

Economic Development; Education; Social Infrastructure; and, Health.

The pillars were locally developed and endorsed before they were shared with Government (Director-Generals & Ministers) in 2016 and endorsed again by the Yarrabah

Leaders' Forum in 2017.

The YLF will be working with community organisations, individuals and stakeholders to develop solutions, which will then be negotiated with Government and jointly implemented.



Last month more than 100 Land and Sea Rangers (State and Federally funded), including Gungandji and Mandingalbay Yidinji, attended a ranger workshop in Cairns. The annual event provides a forum for rangers to share ideas on innovation, building partnerships, conservation economy, corporate sponsorship and best practice in on-ground ranger work.

## POSITIONS VACANT



### Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council Full Time / Part Time (Fixed Term)

If you want to be part of a positive change in Yarrabah by working in our new employment services – please apply.

- Administration Officer
- Participation Support Officers
- Jobs and PPS Consultants
- Community Activities Coordinator
- Personal Coach
- Participation Support Team Leader

**Applications close 2PM, Tuesday 1 May 2018.**

Application Pack including Position Description can be obtained from the Council's website at <http://www.yarrabah.qld.gov.au>



## POSITIONS VACANT

13 Smith, Yarrabah, Qld, 4871  
Phone: (07) 40 569 126  
Fax: (07) 40 569 391  
ABN: 12 901 922 092  
ICN: 7421

The Gungandji Prescribed Body Corporate Aboriginal Corporation seeks applications from suitably qualified persons to carry out the following roles and responsibilities:

- Executive Officer
- Ranger Coordinator
- Ranger and or Junior Ranger
- Sea and Country Coordinator (TUMRA)
- Administration Officer

If you are the right person for one of these positions, please contact our office for a copy of the Position Description. All candidates **MUST** address the selection criteria.

**Applications close Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

13 Smith, Yarrabah, Qld,  
4871  
Phone: (07) 40 569 126  
Fax: (07) 40 569 391  
ABN: 12 901 922 092  
ICN: 7421

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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](mailto:JGeary@yarrabah.qld.gov.au) or Christine on 0419 656 277 or [yarrabahnews@chowes.com.au](mailto:yarrabahnews@chowes.com.au)

**OUR NEXT DEADLINE IS**  
**Thursday 26**  
**APRIL**  
**FOR PUBLICATION ON**  
**Thursday**  
**3 May**