



Yarrabah News

V2 Issue 15 THURSDAY 9 August 2018

Warrior training changing lives

Young men aged between 18 and 30 in Yarrabah are being offered a six month opportunity to learn how to turn themselves into warriors as providers and protectors, rather than aggressors.

Kapani Warrior Program Director Dr Tim White said he and his team offered a three-month course consisting of a week of intensive training alternating with a week off.

“Getting kids into the army is a by-product of what we do, what we’re aimed at doing is reducing domestic violence, alcoholism and drug use,” he said.

“The whole idea of the ethos is really appealing and our message seems to be getting through.

“Our pass rate, once they get through recruitment training, is 87%. So they are well and truly prepared, they understand the culture and all the things that come with it.”

He said he and his team were 100% committed and they expected the same in return.

“We work with guys in the communities who are every bit alpha males but have never proved themselves,” he said.

“So, our approach is about saying, ‘we’re going to give you an opportunity to prove yourself, you think you are so deadly, brother’. “But that comes with a few catches.

“This isn’t about doing a horticultural course and then going off on your own, this is about you joining us forevermore.

“This is a membership that lasts for life.

“We’ve got elders in our training team, guys that are 75 years old. “We got guys that are 25 years old. Once you join the military, then you are a member of a family.



“The day you decide to get out of the army, you come back as an instructor for us because you’re still in the family.”

Dr White said he had a long association with the Yarrabah community over 20 years and had even been rescued by one of his current participants, Jockton Fourmile, in a boating incident nearly 10 years ago. He is also the President of the Yarrabah RSL and a veteran of the Somalia conflict (United Task Force Somalia).

Mayor Ross Andrews said the Council was happy to support the program, which has been funded by Prime Minister and Cabinet.

“The Council has partnered with Kapani to try to occupy disengaged young men in our community,” Mayor Ross Andrews said. “We want to build their capacity and encourage them to think about their life choices and have a career, maybe in the Armed Forces.”





Free workshops tackle ongoing problems

Scientology Volunteer Minister Erica Martin has been holding regular workshops in Yarrabah for the past month or so, starting in the IKC and now at the Women's Resource Centre.

Josie Murgha (pictured above) said the workshops had been interesting.

"Do come along," she said.

"The workshops are interesting and help to increase our knowledge and wisdom of how to handle difficult situations that haven't moved much in our lives," she said.

"It's free and refreshments are provided."

Paula Neal said there was a limited number of spaces, but to contact her for more information.

"It's not a religion thing," she said.

"Just free lessons.

"Erica isn't there to convert anybody, just to offer this free course which is facilitated by the Women's Resource Centre.

"And you get a Certificate of Achievement."

Ms Martin said subjects covered included successful communication, improving relationships, resolving conflicts, overcoming stress, assists for illness, injury and trauma, integrity and honesty, organisation, setting and meeting goals and handling problems with study.

For more information contact Paula Neal on 0428 986 335.



YASC hosts national cons

Yarrabah was lucky to host the National Indigenous regulator conference earlier this month.

NICS members include the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC), Australian Security and Investment Commission (ASIC), state and territory fair trading agencies and ICAN.

"The conference kicked off with a listening session where members heard from community representatives on issues," ACCC Director for Darwin and Townsville Michael Dowers said.

"They included obstacles to consumer empowerment as well as recognising,

understanding and acknowledging culture and history.

"The focus of holding in community was to e improvement within m capability to better eng with and ensure outco corroboratively with A Torres Strait Islander c

"Members heard from representatives of the c including Vincent Sch

Dear Parents

We are happy to inform you that all students at our school will be issued with two pairs of Yarrabah State School shorts or skirts (labelled with our school logo) as well as two pairs of socks.

This initiative is thanks to government lobbying by Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council and we sincerely appreciate their support of our school.

Yours sincerely
Principal Jason Evert





Consumer group conference

Consumer Strategy (NICS) annual consumer law

acknowledging

this conference

encourage

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community

rieber, YASC

Councillors, Percy Neal and David Baird, all of whom shared their valuable insights."

He said members met every year to evaluate and assess progression of NICS Action Plan commitments.

The conference was opened to the community in the afternoon with afternoon tea at the front of the RTC building so the NICS members had a chance to engage with local community members.



Yarrabah's Ministerial Champion Kate Jones and Tourism Events Queensland CEO Leanne Collington recently visited the community to catch up with the Yarrabah Leaders' Forum and introduce our new Education Department Director General Champion Tony Cook.

"We were also looking to gain some support from the Minister around some of the tourism potential we have," Mayor Ross Andrews said. "I think they enjoyed the visit and were certainly impressed with the think tank that is the Yarrabah Leaders' Forum."



Drama classes back again in Youth Space

Drama classes are being held at the Youth Space in Yarrabah every Thursday night.

The drama teacher is Theatre Director Avril Duck who has taught and directed theatre in Gordonvale and Cairns for more than 15-years.

Avril says the sessions are fun and easy to relate to.

"Practicing drama and getting into performance not only teaches new skills but is also great for self confidence, emotional regulation and self expression," she said.

Initially kicked off in May by PCYC the classes are being continued by 'Tropical Arts' which is a Cairns-based inclusive community theatre.

"They want to help to find pathways into performance for youth and community members who regularly attend," Avril said.

She said her speciality was finding opportunities for everyone to shine.

"Come along and join in at the Youth Space every Thursday from 7-8pm," she said.



Pics by Colyn Huber & Veroncia Sagredo with thanks to CIAF

Dale is set behind the wheel!

Last month Wugu Nyambil partnered with the Indigenous Licensing Unit from the Department of Transport and Main Roads to assist 48 people with their licencing needs.

Held over three consecutive days, participants were able to renew existing licences, get a replacement licence, obtain an Adult Proof of Age card and some even sat their written test for their 'L' plates.

"The scheme was a great success and goes a long way to addressing a lack of public transport, a major barrier for many people in Yarrabah," Acting General Manager Darren Birt said.



Dale Keyes celebrating passing her practical driving test

"The feedback from participants was very positive, with many saying they had been waiting a long time for assistance. A big thanks to David Cone and his team from the Indigenous Licensing team for making a lot of people more independent."

Mr Birt said more than 350 people were now signed up to Wugu Nyambil.

"In our first five weeks of operation we have over 350 people in the service, with still around 250 to go," he said.

"For those who have not yet engaged with our service and are not aware of a upcoming appointment, I encourage you to give us a call on 4056 0500 to arrange an appointment. "Over the next few weeks we have a number of exciting Community Activities starting up so check in with us via the office for more details, or check out the Wugu Nyambil Facebook page in the coming days."

Are you an artist? Do you want a chance to be involved in creating Yarrabah's new brand?

This is a paid contract to provide artwork that will then be turned into a Destination/ Place brand for Yarrabah.

Your art will be representing Yarrabah to the world on a new website, and in marketing materials for tourism and economic development purposes.

Closing date for applications is 5pm on 17th August 2018.

Contact Birdy Bird on birdy@planc.com.au or 0407 713 110 to ask any questions.

calling all artists
you are invited to create a new
identity / brand for
yarrabah

Expression of Interest info sheet and guidelines are now available
Download here or email: birdy@planc.com.au
Closing date: Friday 17th August



Yarrabah News is published fortnightly by the Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council and edited by 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 Christine on 0419 656 277 or yarrabahnews@chowes.com.au

OUR NEXT DEADLINE IS
Thursday
16 AUGUST
FOR PUBLICATION ON
Thursday
23 August