



# YORKEYS KNOB COMMUNITY CENTRE

## News and calendar of events for AUGUST 2021

58 – 64 WATTLE STREET, YORKEYS KNOB, QLD.4878

FOR BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES PHONE: 40443005

THE COMMITTEE :Glenda Rowan - Brian Hooley – Ursula Brandt - June Corrie – Wayne Le Clos

# GOODBYE

**SPECIAL  
EDITION**

### COUNCIL TAKES OVER MANAGEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

After being presented with a new management agreement from Council, the current committee couldn't agree to the new conditions which were presented as a fait accompli.

Therefore, from 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021, the hall will be managed by the Council and if you want to hire the hall you can do so via the councils booking line. **4044 3005**

#### *Letter from the President of the Community Centre Committee*

##### **letter to all our friends , Business Associates and user-groups of the Yorkeys Knob Community Hall.**

Over the past month The Yorkeys Knob Activities Group Inc., our little known but effective group of volunteers, have had to re-think our purpose and effectiveness within the community when the Cairns Regional Council asked that we resign a new Management Agreement.

Their terms were unacceptable and they had unrealistic expectations for our small band of volunteers due to the following reasons:-caretaker's duties will cease from the 16 July. Christian Cluver and his wife Louise and their family will continue to rent the old Headmaster's house until December 2021.They have done a great job in their role as our Caretaker and have been welcomed into the Yorkeys Knob Community . We will be sad to see them go.

After 2021, who knows what will happen to the Caretaker's cottage. Council have assured us it will be rented out to a suitable local couple who will have nothing to do with our hall. At least it is not being left vacant for vandalism as in the past. High insurance costs paid another part in our decision. Council required us to have insurance to cover one-off user groups for their birthday parties and associated functions. You can imagine the cost of such a cover. It was horrendous and being a non-profit organisation, it was impossible for us to meet these costs. All user group charges would have had to be increased dramatically for this to happen and we weren't prepared to do this to you. Meanwhile Council has assured us that costs will not increase for current user groups when we leave. The caretaker would clean the toilet areas every day and considering the number of user groups in the hall, it was necessary. Now Council will have a cleaner there once per week to do the toilets and main hall areas. This was unacceptable to us.

We are proud to have left a legacy of improvements totalling \$100,000 for the Hall. Over a 12 year tenure, I thank my committee for achieving this. We have also reached a stage where, not having a caretaker, will make unrealistic demands on an already ageing committee, i.e. opening and closing of hall at all hours after events, the responsibility of ensuring hall is locked and appliances turned off, cleaning of the hall when user groups fail to do this and various other roles that the caretaker was responsible for. I probably don't have to tell you all that I and my committee members, Brian Hooley , Wayne Le Clos, June Corrie and Ursula Brandt have heavy hearts knowing we are leaving. We have enjoyed our service to the community during the past 12 years but now it is time for us to retire.

After the 31 August, 2021, the person at Council who will be responsible for booking of the hall is Patricia Nearey phone number 40443005 email [P.Nearery@cairns.qld.gov.au](mailto:P.Nearery@cairns.qld.gov.au)

As you all know my committee and I have always been on call for our user groups after hours and during weekends. This will now change as Council hours are 8.30am to 4.30pm week days.

We wish you all the best of luck in your future endeavours.

*Glenda Rowan*

### WE FAREWELL OUR CARETAKER



The Cairns Regional Council has not renewed our caretakers' contract and has no intentions of appointing another caretaker, therefore council will take over the caretaker's role at the Yorkeys Knob Community Centre, bringing it in line with other Community Centres in Cairns. Christian Cluver has been our popular caretaker for the past four years. Together with Louise they have cared for the park grounds, tennis courts and hall security, and whilst doing so have become well liked within the community which will be sad to lose them.

**LOOKING BACK AT THE COMMITTEE'S ACHIEVEMENTS**

17 years ago the current committee took over when the Yorkeys Knob Activities group, resigned. The current committee picked up the baton and over the years have worked with the Council to suggest improvements the Council could make, plus the committee applied for many grants to improve conditions at the hall and parklands.

After a disturbance back in 2009 the committee decided to have a newsletter to keep residents informed of the monthly activities at the centre and we installed noticeboards to display it. We also thought that in our first issue a brief history of the site and buildings of the Community Centre would be of interest.

From the first newsletter.....

*Yorkeys Knob Community Centre at the corner of Wattle Street and Cunningham Streets was the site of the old Yorkeys Knob School before the present school opened in 1980. Once the new school was built the area was handed over to the Mulgrave Shire Council by the Queensland Government, Mulgrave and Cairns Council merged in 1990s. The pleasant grounds at the community centre were the old schools playground. The magnificent Pine trees were the result of a Project Club, popular at the time.*



☛ The SES Hall was the schoolhouse

The Caretaker's house was the old schools Principal's house ☛

The 'new' hall is built on the old tennis court site, was opened in 1996



Because of the significance of the site, the committee approached council to name the Community Centre's parklands and in June 2016 it was named

☛ Old School Park and in a way has become an unofficial historic site.

The committee was thrilled that our first big grant was successful, and we were able to get, what was then, a state of the art audio visual system for the hall. President, Glenda Rowan accepts the hand over from State MP Steve Wettenhall. ☛



And to compliment the new audio-visual system, we received a grant for a whiteboard. In fact, the whiteboard proved so popular, it wore out in a few years and had to be replaced.

In 2011 we were successful in a grant application from Brothers Leagues Club for new cricket and tennis equipment We

then approached Council for an undercover seating area near the court for the players and council was happy to do that for us.



Also, the same year we were successful in our first solar grant and the small solar panel was installed in April of 2011 which, for a while, helped us pay the electricity costs at the centre.

The same year Council erected a new fence around the community centre grounds and laid new carpet in the hall.

2011 and 2012 saw many new user groups including 2 new yoga groups, women's defence classes, Hear & Say.



The Rovers held their Easter moot with us.

The Community Centre Committee joined forces with the community and formed the Family History group, together kicked off the year with a packed hall celebrating Robbie Burns birthday with cutting the Haggis. ☛



The Yorkeys Knob Residents Association hold their Festival of the Knob and Christmas Carols at the Community Centre each year and presented the Meet the Candidates night each election year and the hall itself has been used on the odd election day for community voting.

2013 and our user groups expanded to include Marlin Coast Family Day Care, Cooking Classes, a Health and Wellbeing class and we welcomed Noel, as our new Caretaker.



Council supplied us with a new tennis court net, and at seat with sun shade for players at the Tennis Courts. new plaque to replace the vandalised one at the front the exterior of the hall.



our request supplied a Council also erected a of the hall and painted

The committee continued the year with a grant for a piano of the year was when the committee was successful in a



However, the highlight grant to purchase a security system.



2014 continued with new groups like Mums and Bubs Yoga, Nutritionist Workshop and fundraising events. In April the hall was awash in orange as the Cairns Dutch community celebrated their Kings Birthday. 🍌



The Fun Arts group, now known as the Absolute Art group, started their Tuesday Meetings which go from strength to strength each year. The Committee joined forces with the group to hold their first Art Exhibition weekend in October which has established itself as a must on the Yorkeys Knob Calendar of events each year. The 2021 Exhibition weekend is the 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> September.



The Committee produced, what must be the quirkiest thing in time for the festival, 🍌 a Yorkey Cookie. The Cookie was a favourite and sold out quickly. New groups like Soul Motion, the Fun Arts group, Moon Gong Meditation 🍌 Crystal Meditation, Benevolent – Play and Grow, Kundalini Yoga classes and Alkaline Food and Lifestyle workshop were constant users and in October the Cairns Shell Club held exhibitions.



Once again, we were successful in a grant and this time the Cairns Regional Council were able to get the children their new



for new playground equipment matched our grant Dollar for Dollar, so we playground equipment.

Our community centre was the venue for new groups like the Delta Society, Soul Motion, Mums & Bubs Yoga, Qigong workshops and Fundamental Moves with local girl, Mathilde Rottbeck.



At our suggestion, the Cairns Regional Council constructed new disabled access ramps at the front and back of the hall and together with the upgrades to the disabled toilet we could proudly say, we are an ‘up to date’ disabled friendly venue.



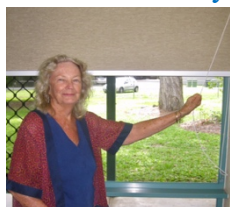
Besides the hall celebrating its 21st birthday during 2017 perhaps the happiest event of the year was the marriage of our 2016 King and Queen. Toby and Chloe were married at the Old School Park under the big old Fig Tree and later celebrated their wedding breakfast in the hall.



The committee finished the year on a high when we were successful for a new computer from Cazaly’s Community Benefit Fund. Glenda Rowan and June Corrie are seen here being presented with a

in our grant application Committee members cheque at the ceremony.

Cairns regional Council installed a new cool water, water fountain. This has always been a favourite facility at the Community Centre.



The Committee was successful once again in securing a Queensland Gambling Fund grant to enabled us to fit the entire hall with state-of-the-art blinds. These blinds allow hall users inside to see out but those outside cannot see in. Glenda Rowan is pictured here trying out the easy roll up-roll down action of the blinds

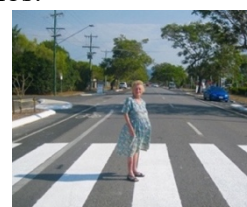
2018 and our newest regular groups include Drum Infinity Mugendai Inc. When they practice people come to listen, as they are well known performers at Taipan games. Also, well-known artist Terize Formanowski commenced her classes on a Friday and YAPS held the first of their fundraisers at the centre.



At the 2018 Absolute Art show the committee purchased another painting for the halls walls. This tradition started from the very first art exhibition and now many fine art works decorate the hall.

🍌 Beverly Houlton who painted this year’s selection is seen here with committee members Brian Hooley, June Corrie and Wayne Le Clos.

And it was fun to end the year when committee member, June Corrie, saw the realisation of her many years of canvassing the Council, for a Pedestrian crossing nearer the shopping centre become a reality, Affectionately now known as ‘Junes Crossing’ it was our own Abbey Road image. 🍌





2019 saw new groups use the hall, groups such as Area 13 practice their music and Rob's self-defence classes still prove to be popular. A delicious user was the Cairns Cake Decorators, using our hall for the first time.



The Committee purchased new Tennis and basketball equipment for the Basketball and Tennis courts also a new and much bigger whiteboard. The old one had seen better days and has been retired to storage.



convenience outline to president's

With the success of the Book Swap at the hall, the committee decided to purchase a Street Library. The Absolute Art group designed and decorated it for us, and the council came to our aid and erected it at the beach. It is in constant use to this day.



Towards the end of the year the committee joined Terize Formanowski Friday art classes and the Cairns Regional Council to paint a mural on the block at the northern end of the beach. Terize drew up the mural cover not only the historic event of WW2 when the United States wife visited and stayed at Yorkeys Knob, but also Yorkey himself.



2020 and a new year started well with new groups including Cairns Sacred Women's circle and Billy's Buddies booking the centre.

We continued our success with a grant from the Queensland Government Office of Liquor and Gaming to upgrade the CD player in our audio-visual system and another grant from the Bendigo Bank Connected Communities for A Defibrillator in the Kitchen.

Cairns Regional Council acted at the back of the hall home.



quickly on our suggestions for a wheelchair and a seat for people waiting for a bus or



ramp a ride

Then of course Covid-19 disrupted activities, but gradually the hall reopened, and we could welcome back your favourite groups like the American Car Club, Zumba Gold, Yorkeys Knob Residents Association and so did party and function bookings return.

Despite Covid procedures in place we entered 2021 on a high with groups use of the centre almost back to normal, including some new groups, Wednesday Art Group, Oils Club and and Yin Yoga.

At last, we took delivery of the higher resolution security system we purchased. This will give clearer images and cover a larger area and see it in more detail.



However, we finish our time as a committee with the news that the Community Centre Committee has been successful in their application to the Gambling Community Benefit Fund to have the hall fully solar powered. Our smaller panel from a grant years ago needed to be replaced and expanded for a better coverage.

Craig Crawford, State MP for Barron River, seen here informing Glenda Rowan and Wayne Le Clos of their successful grant application.



As we hand the management of the centre back to Council, we are proud of the many achievements we have accomplished for the centre and the community over the years.

2021 Committee members (LtoR)

Brian Hooley, June Corrie, Ursula Brandt, Wayne Le Clos, Glenda Rowan. PHOTO by Marcus Cochrane.



**TO BOOK THE YORKEYS KNOB COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
**Patricia Nearery on 40443005 or email P.Nearery@cairns.qld.gov.au**  
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