

Yorkeys Knob Matters

President's Report

Summer certainly appears to have returned. At the time of writing we're having a forecast sunny day of 35 degrees after more than a week in the 30s. It's great seeing people in our community out walking along the beach, enjoying our wonderful outdoor dining options and taking the opportunity to cool off in the pool or the beach. Our natural waterways do provide challenges and it is timely to make a short reminder that with the approach of summer, comes the return of marine stingers. Take care when swimming in the beach, especially observing the advice and directions of our dedicated life guards. Swim between the flags and as our stinger nets are rolled out, stay within their boundary. Of course other general advice remains, such as sun smart protection and so on.

The October annual general meeting was held on the 27th October at the community centre. It was well attended, with the incumbent committee reinstalled unopposed.

The monthly meeting followed the AGM with general business discussion about three key areas of concern.

- Increasing traffic congestion in peak hours around the intersection of Dunne Rd with Yorkeys Knob Rd, then Yorkeys Knob Rd with the Captain Cook Hwy.
- Safety of the new pedestrian crossing at the shopping centre on Varley St.
- The boat ramp sign on Buckley St appearing misleading.

Motions were passed to write to the relevant levels of government to seek clarification/ responses. See the response to the traffic congestion enclosed and I encourage the community to get involved and have your say as referred in the response. Further responses will be published in Yorkeys Knob Matters, as well as presented at the monthly meetings as they are received.

NEXT MONTHLY MEETING 7.30PM TUESDAY 24TH OCTOBER, 2020

At the Yorkeys Knob Community Centre.

Adrian Gover
President



Stinger season has returned

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**YORKEYS
KNOB
RESIDENTS
ASSOCIATION
INC.**

Editor's Note:
Following the October monthly meeting, a letter was forwarded to the Commonwealth, State and Local government representatives seeking advice on the development of the National Highway upgrade of Cairns to Smithfield and its relationship to increased traffic from Dunne Road to the Capt Cook Hwy via Yorkeys Knob Rd. The response was received encouraging the community to provide feedback.

Traffic Issue—Yorkeys Knob Rd & Capt Cook Hwy

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is progressing a \$359 million program of road upgrades along Captain Cook Highway between Cairns and Smithfield. Master planning, including a staged approach for the upgrades, has commenced and is expected to be complete by late-2022. A detailed construction schedule will be announced following completion of the planning. TMR is currently seeking community feedback to inform the development of the options for the upgrades.

As part of the Cairns Ring Road (CBD to Smithfield) project TMR is progressing an early works package to specifically target the timely delivery of improvements along the section of Captain Cook Highway between Airport Avenue and James Street. This project will include capacity improvements for southbound traffic on this section of the highway, with construction expected to commence in mid-2021, weather permitting.

You can find further information about the Cairns Ring Road (CBD to Smithfield) project on the TMR website. You can also provide further feedback on the project by clicking on the 'Have your say' button on the webpage by following this link <https://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/projects/cairns-ring-road-cbd-to-smithfield>

The Cairns Ring Road (CBD to Smithfield) project team can be contacted by email at cairns_ring_road@tmr.qld.gov.au or by telephone on 1800 187 937, option 4.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further information.

Suzanne Hunter
Communications Advisor (Far North District) | North Queensland Region
Program Delivery & Operations | Infrastructure Management and
Delivery Division
Department of Transport and Main Roads

Local Pool Care

Your Local Pool Shop based in Yorkeys Knob. I am Peter Hamilton and what I can give to the people of Yorkeys Knob, Northern Beaches and greater Cairns area is an in depth knowledge of pools and how to make them look their best for you at all times. Having been in the pool space for the last 10 years in pool construction, retail & maintenance, I bring a wealth of knowledge on all things regarding pools.

Maria worked at VIP Furniture for 10 Years in sales and customer service, and many of the locals will know her as the Kiwi Maria from there.

We deliver new innovative products and technologies, and enjoyment of your pool should be commonplace in the tropics. Whether you're looking for mineral pools, mineral additives, want to control all of your systems by remote, need a pool service or just a pool health check to ensure your equipment and pool water is doing OK, simply call or email to book in a visit and let us help you get the most out of your pool.

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Peter & Maria Hamilton
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Police Beat

This will be my last column for 2020. First of all I would like to wish everyone a very safe and Merry Christmas. 2020 has been a challenging year however from what I have seen in our area it has just helped reinforce what a resilient bunch we are, hopefully 2021 will be a little kinder to us all.

On a more sombre note at the time of writing this the Queensland road toll this year stands at 223 that is a 18% increase on the toll this time last year and the Far North is overrepresented in these figures. While 223 lives have been lost on our roads the bigger toll is the ripple effect that this has across the whole of the state. 223 people will never celebrate Christmas, New Year or Birthdays with their families again and this will be felt by them long after the Forensic Crash Investigators paint is worn from the roads.

January marks 20 years in the Queensland Police Service for me, in this time I have attended countless fatal crashes and still remember all of them. Dealing with the crash scene while confronting is the easy bit the hard bit comes afterwards. Knocking on a door to tell a person that a person that they love dearly is never coming home, that is the hard bit and task that I would not wish upon anyone.

Crashes are never an accident, there is always an underlying cause. We can all play our part to reduce this statistic by remembering:

- Don't Speed.
- Don't drive while under the influences of substances (drugs and/or alcohol).
- Wear your seatbelt.
- Don't drive while fatigued.
- Don't drive while distracted (Including Mobile Devices).

One item that appear in the 5 but is also important get your vehicle checked. When was the last time it was serviced are the tyres safe?

Talk to your loved ones if they are travelling over the break and make sure that they remember the five. Talk to your kids and make sure they remember them.

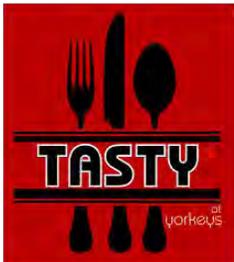
Police will be out patrolling 24 x 7 carrying out enforcement duty however we cannot be everywhere all the time. We need people to take responsibility for their action when they sit in the driver seat, use common sense remember the five and don't take risks. We also need people sitting in the passenger seat to act and speak up if they can see that that the driver is not up to the task or doing something wrong. Don't be afraid to them out your life is in their hands. If we can do this perhaps we can prevent the need for further families to suffer the grief of losing a loved one in a road crash.

Until next time "Lock it or Loose it"

Senior Constable Mathew Rohde

Yorkeys Knob Police Beat

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Note from our Vet



KEEPING YOUR PETS COOL IN THE HEAT

Summer is fast approaching and now is the time to think about the ways you can make your pets feel more comfortable in our far north Queensland summer.

All animals, including livestock, companion animals and wildlife need a little extra care and attention when the ambient temperatures rise. Flat faced breeds of dogs and cats are particularly susceptible to heat stress, as are pocket pets like Guinea pigs and rats. Our high humidity also places extra added stress on pets.

DO's:

- Make sure LOTS of cool, fresh water is available at all times. Leave strategically placed bowls of water for wildlife in your garden
- Ensure pets have access to adequate shelter from the elements
- Allow access to fans or air conditioning
- Place frozen water bottles in bedding
- Give frozen treats such as plain water ice blocks frozen in large containers or goodies frozen with water or diluted stock in ice cream containers. Water filled, frozen balloons are a great idea, just remember to remove the balloon before giving to your pet
- Take pets for a swim at the beach, creek or at home in the pool
- Provide a childrens clam shell pool or allow access to garden sprinklers
- Provide you pet with a cooling mat or coat
- Keep an eye out for reptiles! The warmer weather is when snakes and crocs are more active. Avoid known croc habitats and keep the yard clean and tidy to help prevent snakes from taking up residence in your garden
- Slip, slop slap the on sunscreen. Pets are susceptible to sunburn too, particularly those with white fur and pink pigmentation of the skin. Horses have the option of fly masks with added sun veils to protect areas such as the nose

DON'Ts

- Please DO NOT exercise your pets in the heat of day. Choose timing of riding, walks and play time at dawn and dusk.
- Please DO NOT walk pets on bitumen roads during the day – this can cause severe injury to the soft pads of your dogs paws
- Please DO NOT leave pets in cars unattended at all or on metal trays of utes without adequate shading

If you have any questions about keeping your pets cool or suspect your fur babies are suffering from the effects of heat stress or burns, please phone us on 40578677 or come into the clinic at 4/471 Varley Street, Yorkeys

From the Beachside team

Yorkeys Knob Boating Club

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