

# Yorkeys Knob Matters

May 2026

Yorkeys Knob Residents' Association Inc  
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P: PO Box 256 Yorkeys Knob Q 4878



## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Crime has been a hot issue in this town over many months. The recent break-ins at Ten06 and the well-attended public meeting that followed show that people are concerned. I recently carried out a survey of Police crime data for Yorkeys Knob. The data show that there has been a significant increase in crime in Yorkeys Knob over the last twelve months. Offences of most concern to residents; unlawful entry and unlawful use of a motor vehicle, have more than doubled. Overall crime in Yorkeys Knob is up by 20 percent year on year, with 251 offences being committed in 2025-2026 compared with 201 in 2024-2025.

This contrasts with crime figures for the region, which, as reported by Bree James in her column, have decreased slightly. The increase in crime is accompanied, anecdotally, by an increase in the frequency of hooning at the new boat ramp. Hoons know that there is no police presence in Yorkeys Knob and that they have time to carry out their hooning with impunity before the police arrive, if indeed they arrive at all.

The Yorkeys Knob community expects and deserves better than this. Many of our residents are elderly and the impact on them is larger than in the general population. Yorkeys Knob needs a greater police presence. Several residents have spoken to me asking about the having the Police Beat reinstated. Given the crime statistics, this is a reasonable request. You can read Bree James comments on crime in her column.

Dr Michael Powell  
President

## YORKEYS KNOB DISASTER RESILIENCE GROUP (YKDRG)

The Yorkeys Knob Disaster Resilience Group has recently formed as a group of concerned residents who would like to ensure that our seaside village is better prepared for future climatic events. We feel that there is a lot to be learnt about emergency preparedness after Cyclone Jasper and we are engaging with governments at all levels in order to garner support for improved resources, support and community capacity. This includes working to ensure that we have a dedicated emergency refuge, a local source of resources such as sandbags and first aid kits, reliable source of communication such as satellite web access and to generate grassroots networks to develop a strong and supportive community.

We will report regularly on our progress in this newsletter. If you are interested in contributing or have any ideas or input, please contact us on the Yorkeys knob newsletter email address - [residentsykra@gmail.com](mailto:residentsykra@gmail.com) Enjoy this beautiful autumn weather.

Michelle Taillier

### Important contacts:



Police, Fire, Ambulance  
Emergency: 000



State Emergency Service  
132500



Cairns Regional Council  
1300 692 247  
[cairns.qld.gov.au](http://cairns.qld.gov.au)



Ergon Energy: 131670



Queensland Government

Transport & Main Roads  
131940  
[tmr.qld.gov.au](http://tmr.qld.gov.au)

# Yorkeys Knob Matters

## ANNUAL ANZAC DAY MEMORIAL SERVICE

2026's remembrance was held at the usual location outside Yorkeys Knob Boat Club. Attendance was up this year, helped by fine weather. Committee Member Michelle Taillier, accompanied by her father who is a Vietnam veteran, laid a wreath on behalf of the Residents Association.



## YORKEYS FESTIVAL OF THE KNOB

Committee member Amanda Snow is doing a magnificent job organising the forthcoming 20<sup>th</sup> Festival of the Knob, to be held on Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup>. We are all very excited to present this wonderful event again, which was originally started to cover legal costs incurred in fighting a bad development proposal. Quite a legacy!

The Festival of the Knob is now only six weeks away and the Residents Association is feeling very excited to be able to bring this amazing event back to Yorkeys Knob after a year's hiatus.

### **Details: The Festival of the Knob (20th Anniversary)**

**Date: Saturday 6th June 2026**

**Time: 10am to 4pm**

**Where: The foreshore of Sims Esp Yorkeys Knob**

At this stage we have over 60 market stalls secured with everything from handmade clothes to artworks and everything in between. We have some amazing food vendors which are as diverse as this community from burgers, pizza, sushi to steam buns and smoked meats. Of course, MacAlister's Brewing Company and Distil on the Hill will be there too for a nice cold drink. For those that prefer a non-alcoholic beverage we have some dirty sodas and bubble tea on offer. Don't worry we have two coffee vans too which I am sure we will all need early Saturday morning!!

The entertainment is going to be next level as always with local community groups sharing their talents with us all...make sure you stick around for the grand finale "Drum Infinity". Something on the quirky side we will be having a "Toss the Knob" competition which is a must to enter ...who can toss the knob the furthest?

We are also having a huge raffle called "The Hamper of The Knob" with donations from almost every business in Yorkeys Knob. It is going to be worth a ticket purchase that's for sure.

We still have some availability for stallholders so if you haven't applied already and you think you'd like to be part of the 20th Anniversary Festival of the Knob please feel free to send me an email – [gilimali69@gmail.com](mailto:gilimali69@gmail.com) or [residentsykra@gmail.com](mailto:residentsykra@gmail.com).

Amanda Snow

## MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING

Centacare FNQ invites the Barron Flood Communities to a FREE Mental Health First Aid training.

This session is for community members who play a frontline role in disaster response. Learn how to provide effective initial support to adults experiencing mental health challenges or a mental health crisis, until professional help is available or the situation resolves.

MAY 12 & MAY 19, 2026 9am - 4.30pm  
22-34 Aplin Street, 2nd Floor, Cairns QLD

## AMBULANCE RESPONSE TIMES AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

A couple of weeks ago I fell heavily on the road and broke my hip. This unfortunate bit of clumsiness highlighted a few notable aspects about being a resident in Yorkeys Knob.

1. We are fortunate to share our village with sympathetic and caring people.
2. As a community, we need to become more self-reliant during emergencies.

# Yorkeys Knob Matters

## AMBULANCE RESPONSE TIMES AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE - Continued

Immediately after I fell, a lady arrived and directed traffic around me. Over the next few minutes several other residents also came to assist. I was in such pain that my memory is not very clear, but there seemed to be a lot of people helping me in the next couple of hours. I did not recognize most of the people "on site" but I would like to express my gratitude to everyone, but particularly Sonya and her husband, Alana, David, Rebecca, Julian and Liz. You people are "salt of the earth" and what makes Yorkeys a great community.

One of the people called the Ambulance [several times, I understand]. The ambos did not arrive for two hours. Don't get me wrong, I am not complaining, I believe the ambos are under-resourced and overworked, but my point is – we [the community of YK] need to be more self – reliant.

In the aftermath of flooding associated with Cyclone Jasper Yorkeys residents were pretty much on our own. In the years following Jasper there has been a lot of talk by the various authorities, but [to the best of my knowledge] not much action to rectify the issues we experienced.

In an effort to lessen the impact of the next "Jasper," the Yorkeys Knob Residents Association has set up the Yorkeys Knob Disaster Resilience Group tasked with assisting the community until the relevant authorities are able to take over. It is proposed to approach this in two ways:

- Establish an aged and infirm register to provide special assistance to the most vulnerable residents.
- Establish a "skills and equipment " register to identify residents with the skills and equipment needed at the onset of flooding or post-cyclone.

Where do you fit into this? Register with Kirsty at the Post Office or [preferably] come along to the next YKRA meeting in the community hall on the last Tuesday of the month at 7.30.

Allan Cullington

## CATCH UP WITH BREE JAMES MP – MAY 2026

Hello Yorkeys!

I want to thank Yorkeys Knob Boating Club for hosting another beautiful Anzac Day ceremony last week. This event brought together the community to remember the cost of service and ensure we never forget those who gave everything for our community.

A number of community organisations in the Barron River electorate received funding through the latest round of the Gambling Community Benefit Fund. This includes Northern Beaches Mudcrabs Rugby Union who will use the funding to upgrade their facilities in Yorkeys Knob. It was lovely to meet Buffy and Vaiari and I look forward to seeing the upgrades in the future.

Many residents in Yorkeys have reached out the housing project on Best Street and I wanted to give you some reassurance. The project will deliver 14 social homes comprised of four, one-bedroom apartments and ten two-bedroom apartments. All 14 homes are gold level accessibility homes, which means they are being built for people with significant mobility issues (i.e. unable to use stairs due to disability, age or injury). It's no secret we need more housing in Far North Queensland; especially for our elderly, construction is scheduled to be complete by Mid 2026.

Youth crime in Far North Queensland continues to remain a huge concern across our region. Many youth offenders are getting bail and then breaching it within hours, and this is why I am pushing hard for bail reforms. While crime numbers are decreasing slightly in our region, it is nowhere near where it needs to be. Everyone deserves to feel safe in their own home. I will continue to fight until we have stronger laws and safer streets. We have also invested \$17 million dollars into early intervention programs in Far North Queensland to help redirect youth that without early intervention, could be the next generation of criminals.

Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to seeing as many residents at the Festival of the Knob later this year.

Until next month,

Bree James MP.  
Member for Barron River

# Yorkeys Knob Matters

## THANK YOU TO OUR LOCAL SPONSORS

If possible please support those who support us.  
These local businesses are proud to be a part of our local community.



1E, 455 Varley St Yorkeys Knob

Ph: 4081 0810

E: reception@hpgcairns.com.au

**SOCIAL MEMBERSHIP AVAILABLE**

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Kitchen Closes at 11:30am with cabinet delights to tickle your tastebuds after that.

Memories Cafe @ Yorkeys Knob - Where every plate and cup tell a story...

Great locally roasted coffee, yummy filling breakfasts, cheeky homemade cakes, fresh juices and smoothies made to order. Pop in for a pick me up, a quick chat, or just because you can.

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## Yorkeys Knob Boating Club

Yorkeys Knob Boating Club & Half Moon Bay Marina  
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