

Yorkeys Knob Matters

APRIL 2026

Yorkeys knob Residents Association Inc.

E: residents@yorkeysknob.com

P: PO Box 256 Yorkeys Knob Q 4878



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



We start this month's newsletter with an image taken by our Vice President Daniela Vavrova, reminding us of our beautiful place and why we live here.

Enjoy the Easter Break.

Dr Michael Powell,
YKRA President

2026 FESTIVAL OF THE KNOB...SAVE THE DATE!

The Yorkeys Knob Resident's Association is bringing back The Festival of the Knob

It is the Festival's 20th Anniversary so let's make it a big one.

There will be market stalls, entertainment and amazing food and drinks.

Saturday 6th June 2026

10am to 4 pm (For stallholders)

Note the food and drinks stalls including MacAlisters Brewing Co and Distil on the Hill will be open until 6pm

Any queries you can contact AMANDA at:

gilimali69@gmail.com or residentsykra@gmail.com

It is going to be a great day so bring along your family and friends... furbabies are welcome too as long as they are on a lead!!!



Important contacts:



Police, Fire, Ambulance
Emergency: 000



State Emergency Service
132500



Cairns Regional Council
1300 692 247
cairns.qld.gov.au



Ergon Energy: 131670



Queensland Government
Transport & Main Roads
131940
tmr.qld.gov.au

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TIDES OF MEMORY: A LIVING HISTORY OF YORKEYS KNOB – CELEBRATION

The four-day celebration of *Yorkeys Knob Living History* was truly amazing. Attendance exceeded all expectations. First and foremost, we thank all the local residents who took the time to attend. Several of you came to the launch on more than one day.

The *Living History Project* brought the community together, which is also the central message of the book. It is the community that makes Yorkeys Knob such a special place. A special thank you goes to the Yorkeys Knob Boating Club for their generous support.

Saturday the 28th marked the beginning of the celebration. I was initially concerned when I saw that people could not all fit inside the boardroom, but I was amazed by the attendance and the strong interest in both purchasing the book and listening to the presenters.

Sunday the 29th continued in a similar spirit, with a full boardroom and wonderful energy. Many locals came to reconnect with one another after not seeing each other for a long time. They enthusiastically joined the Q&A session, sharing and exchanging memories. There was laughter and a great atmosphere throughout the day. I was very pleased with how the day unfolded. We also thank the local auctioneer, Erin, and everyone who purchased the paintings and the first print of the book.

Monday the 30th focused on heritage—past, present, and future. We celebrated the one Queensland State Heritage-listed site in Yorkeys Knob and discussed future heritage listings that the Yorkeys Knob Residents Association is currently working on.

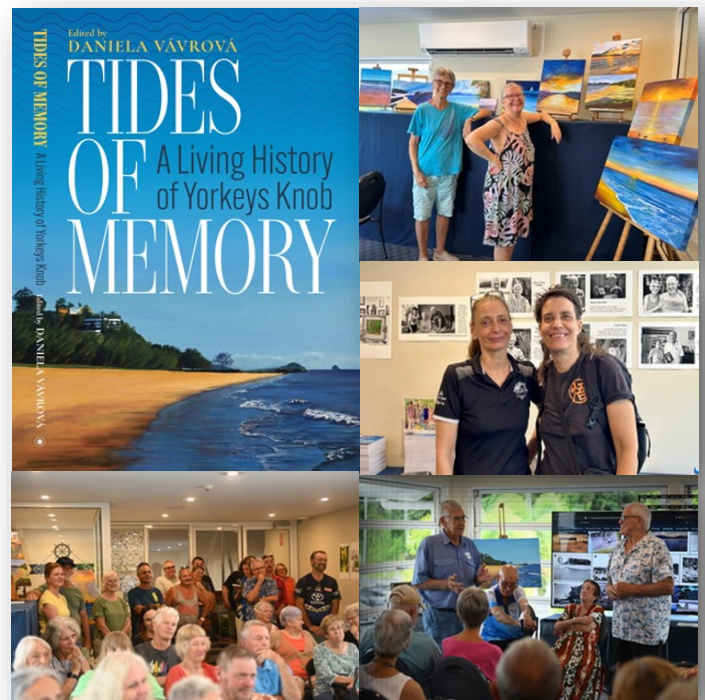
Tuesday the 31st celebrated maritime heritage, particularly the motor vessel *Tropic Seas*. You can read more about it in the book. We are hopeful that the vessel will soon become heritage listed, and we look forward to celebrating that achievement when it happens. Please stay tuned for that news.

Thank you all for coming and for sharing this unique moment of celebrating our beautiful home. I am very proud and grateful to the Yorkeys Knob Residents Association, the Yorkeys Knob Boating Club, the Regional Arts Development Fund, and Cairns Regional Council, as well as to all the interviewees, participants in the project, and the Book Team.

For those of you who have yet to purchase a copy of the book, copies can be obtained in the local Post Office, Yorkeys Knob Boating Club, Villa Marine or by emailing us at residentsykra@gmail.com. Cost is \$30.00

A reminder that the online interactive story map of the project can be accessed from the QR code at the front of the book of at

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/334aab462c38431c83e002c4bcee0207>



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DISASTER RESILIENCE PLANNING

The YKRA Disaster Resilience Group discussed what actions are needed to prepare our community for an extreme weather event such as a cyclone or storm surge. The meeting agreed that an appropriate disaster response would include plans, preparation and identifying key residents with the commitment, skills and equipment needed to bridge the gap between the disaster and the arrival of assistance from outside our community.

Accordingly, we would like you to contact the YKRA if you are:

- Aged or infirm. We appreciate that older residents and people experiencing serious illness should be assisted before and after a major weather event.
- Willing to volunteer your time and skills and have available appropriate tools and or equipment [such as chainsaw, shovel, boat etc]

If you are able to assist, please contact the Residents Association: residentsykra@gmail.com

A member of the Disaster Resilience Group will contact you and provide further information and record your details if you decide to become an active member of the Disaster Resilience Group.

TREE REMOVAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE

We have lost a number of large trees from the knob recently. Some of these were due to storms and/or slope instability, however others seem to have been cut down without good reason.

Two large gum trees were removed from a property in Buckley Street; the stated reason for their removal was because of root invasion into the adjacent building. However, Eucalyptus species have deep tap roots, rather than spreading root systems as do figs for example.

Two large street trees were removed from the frontage of another property in the same street

prior to the land being built on a couple of years ago for no apparent reason. Trees have been removed from vacant land in Dowsett Close in the last month. These trees did not impact on the building platform.

Their removal could have contributed to possible landslip which resulted in two more large trees falling down for no apparent reason a few days later. At least four large trees taken from a single site.

The point is that we are losing our tree cover on an adhoc basis without consideration of the impact on the wildlife we so value. It seems to be all too easy to remove a tree in Cairns. There are multiple reasons which can be used to gain permission. It's likely that many, if not the majority, of trees are removed without notifying Council.

Last month's newsletter contained an article by CAFNEC protesting the loss of our street shade trees. Cairns is part of the wet tropics; leafy and green. Our streetscapes and suburbs are filled with trees. We need the shade and the wildlife needs the habitat provided by trees. Council should review its policies to make it harder to simply come along and cut them down without sound reason, which is the current situation.

CAIRNS AIRPORT NEWS

There is a lot going on at Cairns Airport. The following has been provided by David Stephens, who is a member of the consultation group.

Airlines

Air New Zealand flights to begin again in March.

Singapore Airlines currently has four flights per week, increasing to five per week in July, daily from November.

Fiji Air has its first anniversary coming up, they have exceeded expectations, with a lot of passenger traffic from the USA.

Jetstar to Christchurch. The first anniversary coming is up. The service is going well with three flights per week.

There are discussions in place



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regarding the possibility of direct flights from Cairns to Vietnam.

Infrastructure:

The Terminal One refurbishment project, staged over three years, is now complete

The covered car park at T1 was opened on the 27th February, 2026.

The outside façade of Terminal Two is undergoing maintenance and upgrades, and the Toilets are being refurbished.

Airport baggage systems continue to be upgraded.

The new Bus stop has been completed, near the International Terminal, however TMR have not yet finalised arrangements for the route.

Skyhaven Accommodation likely to commence this month, road works to the accommodation are currently under construction. Mandala Group will be managing the property.

GA (General Aviation) – Cairns Airport are currently building new premises for staff (ground staff and Airport Safety Officers).

Café at GA, Che Zest, has opened overlooking the runway.

Civil works are being carried out in the eastern precinct as you enter the airport. Land has been cleared and fill imported for works including a new hangar and car park.

There is a new website introduced called Aircraft in your Neighbourhood:

<https://aircraftnoise.airservicesaustralia.com/>

It has lots of information regarding flight paths and aircraft movements etc.

Any issues regarding aircraft noise can be referred to: airservicesaustralia.com

exciting sporting developments and tourism announcements opportunities, there's plenty to explore this month.

New Queensland Ambulance Service Operations Centre

Construction is now underway on a brand-new \$31.9 million Queensland Ambulance Service Triple Zero (000) Operations Centre and Regional Office in Cairns.

This purpose-built facility will support the highly skilled Emergency Call Takers and Emergency Medical Dispatchers who answer some of the most urgent calls for help in our community. Located on Anderson Street in Manunda, the new Operations Centre is expected to be operational in early 2028.

Boost to Buy Home Ownership Scheme

The Boost to Buy scheme helps first home buyers earning less than \$150,000 (single) and \$225,000 (partnered), get into the market with as little as a 2% deposit. For a new property valued at \$750,000, an approved applicant could receive an equity contribution of up to \$225,000. The applicant's contribution would be a minimum of just \$15,000.

Round Two opens at 9am Tuesday 31 March, offering another 500 places, half reserved for regional Queenslanders.

Upgrade of Barlow Park

This mega upgrade will provide Cairns with a brand-new grandstand increasing seating capacity from 1,700 to 5,000, improved player facilities and amenities, enhanced accessibility throughout the venue and upgraded equipment for athletes.

It is designed with tropical Cairns in mind and will ensure we are front and centre on the Green and Gold runway and for decades to come. Early works expected to begin soon after the footy season.

NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF BREE JAMES

Welcome to Bree's Barron River Bulletin. From health infrastructure to



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YORKEYS KNOB RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION



Mail: PO Box 256, Yorkeys Knob Qld 4878
Email: residents@yorkeysknob.com

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL / APPLICATION FORM

NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____ Yorkeys Knob
Qld 4878

POST ADDRESS: _____
(if different)

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: / /

Members must be over 18 years of age and a resident of Yorkeys Knob

COST: \$5.00 PER FINANCIAL YEAR

Payment can be made at our monthly meetings or electronically to:

BSB: 633000

ACC: 113530539

NAME: Yorkeys Knob Residents Association

IMPORTANT: If paying by internet banking, provide the name of applicant as a reference and email to residents@yorkeysknob.com with details of the payment. Post or email the completed application form to the address above, or bring it to a monthly meeting

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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.



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.

Fresh food. Friendly faces. Unforgettable moments.

Present this ad, show local ID and get 10% off your bill..

Yorkeys Knob Boating Club

Yorkeys Knob Boating Club & Half Moon Bay Marina
P: 40557711 F: 40557074
PO Box 100, Yorkeys Knob, 4878
www.ykbc.com.au



"The Best Nautical Address in the North"



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YORKEYS KNOB PHARMACY



At Yorkeys knob pharmacy, we're proud to offer:

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- Free blood pressure checks** – no appointment needed
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- Webster packing** – keeping your medication routine organised and stress-free
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- Friendly service, expert advice, and everyday value** – all under one roof.

Drop in today and see the difference!

Your Local Pharmacy – Open 5 Days a Week!

We're here for your health and everyday needs:

Monday to Friday: 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Phone number: 0740558889

Email: info@yorkeysknobpharmacy.com.au

Shop 7, 455 Varley Street, Yorkeys Knob, QLD 4878

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