

Yorkeys Knob Matters

June 2026

Yorkeys Knob Residents' Association Inc

W: yorkeysknob.com

E: residentsykra@gmail.com

P: PO Box 256 Yorkeys Knob Q 4878



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Welcome to the July 2026 edition of the Yorkeys Knob Newsletter. Our Management Committee are a diverse group of individuals who share a common passion – to make Yorkeys Knob the best that it can be. All bring different perspectives to the task of achieving this aim and the contribution of this group is often unacknowledged. To remedy this, I intend to feature some of the key individuals we are fortunate enough to have on board over the coming months, starting with Michelle Taillier. Michelle heads up the Disaster Resilience Committee, who have the daunting task of developing storm and flood resilience plans for Yorkeys Knob that are effective and look after our most vulnerable residents in extreme weather events. These are being developed for beachside suburbs through Cairns Council Disaster Management Unit after the experience with Cyclone Jasper.

A reminder that YKRA membership renewals are now due for the 26/27FY. The Association can only advocate effectively for Yorkeys Knob if we have sufficient members to be heard by our politicians. YKRA has been very successful in past years in advocating for our community and celebrating who we are through the festival events that we hold. We need you to be part of these efforts at least to the extent of being a member of the Association.

Please take the time to send us \$5.00 in cash or preferably by bank transfer:

Yorkeys Knob Residents Association
Bendigo Bank BSB 633 000. Account Number 113 530 539

Note that memberships of those who joined after March 31, 2026 are automatically renewed and are financial for the coming year. New members are welcome. If you are a resident, please complete the attached form and email it to us at residentsykra@gmail.com together with payment of \$5.00 by bank transfer or mail to PO Box 256, Yorkeys Knob QLD 4878. for the

We are commemorating the 150th anniversary of Cairns with a ceremony and burial of a time capsule. See details below.

Dr Michael Powell President



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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CEREMONY AND TIME CAPSULE CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF CAIRNS

Yorkeys Knob Residents Association in conjunction with Yorkeys Knob Boating Club are holding a ceremony on Saturday October 10 at the memorial garden next to the Club, to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the founding of the city of Cairns. A Time capsule will be buried, and the Club will host some drinks and nibbles on the deck afterwards to mark the occasion. More details next month. We are seeking feedback from you as to how long you think we should bury the Time Capsule: 50, 100 or 150 years. If you would like to have a say, please email us on residentsykra@gmail.com to register your vote.

YORKEYS KNOB DISASTER RESILIENCE GROUP AND COMMUNITY CONNECTION

I must be excused for being slightly sentimental as I write this article. Reason being, I have been very touched lately by the industrious effort that folk in Cairns are putting into community projects. Many people are working on improved disaster resilience in our region. The Yorkeys Knob Disaster Resilience Group (YKDRG) has been putting in considerable time and energy, drafting plans and reaching out to the community. The movement around saving significant trees has also been fantastic to witness. Signs are now posted under the trees at Sim's Esplanade, broadening public awareness.

As a representative of YKDRG, I was asked recently if I would like to be part of a panel which was to meet at the Cairns' Ecofiesta event a few weekends ago. It was a fairly impromptu community workshop, which included a number of Cairns locals who are contributing in their own special ways to improving life in our tropical city. A well-known TV personality was also present - Costa, who has recently provided wonderful support for tree conservation efforts in Cairns. Our workshop host prompted each of us to consider aspects of how community connections assisted us in our roles and our aims. We spoke of how neighbourly efforts were important in so many ways - not only for assisting each other during the best of times, with a friendly hello on a dog walk, but also in times of strife, when events such as Cyclone Jasper challenge us all. Communities which are more connected are more resilient, an adage I thought very pertinent a reminder for YKDRG.

I am also astounded by the passion and commitment of those who have formed the sub-committee of YKDRG. They have spent many hours meeting with politicians and other community members, drafting brochures and disaster plans, meeting as a sub-committee, developing ways to help our vulnerable people whilst assessing public liability concerns and carrying the mental load to try to improve our suburb's resilience in the case of another event.

A big shout out to these people and a thank you for all your time and effort.

If you are interested in what YKDRG is doing and would like to be part of it, please email yorkeyskdrg@gmail.com



Ecofiesta Panel (LtoR): Patrick Sim, Michelle Taillier, Maree Grenfell, Renae & Costa Georgiadis

LOVED & LOST

THE STORY OF THE FRESHWATER RAINTREE

A photographic exhibition by Kerry Trapnell, Brian Cassey & Jon Westaway

OPENING NIGHT 16 JULY, 6PM

WITH SPECIAL GUEST
COSTA GEORGIADIS

An exhibition documenting the ten-month community campaign to protect the Freshwater Raintree, a towering "cathedral of nature" in the heart of Freshwater.

A story of connection, collective action, and what grew from a community united in its care for people and place.

EXHIBITION:
16 - 26 JULY

NARROW TRACKS INSTALLING

60-70 Magazine St, Stratford

For more info:

CameraHouse

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20TH FESTIVAL OF THE KNOB A HUGE COMMUNITY SUCCESS

The organisers of the 20th Festival of the Knob thank the community for helping make this year's event one of the most successful in the festival's history.

Held at Sims Esplanade, Yorkeys Knob, the festival attracted more than 5,000 attendees and featured over 100 market stalls, food vendors, live entertainment, community activities and the popular "Tossing of the Knob".

The event highlighted the strong community spirit of Yorkeys Knob and the Northern Beaches, with local performers, volunteers, businesses and stallholders contributing to a vibrant and welcoming atmosphere. Organisers extend special thanks to local businesses that donated prizes for the successful "Hamper of the Knob", and to Macalister Brewing Company for creating the festival's popular special-release "Knob Ale".

Festival organiser Amanda Snow said the event's success was made possible by the support of volunteers, sponsors, entertainers, stallholders and the wider community.

"This festival is all about bringing people together and supporting local businesses. It was wonderful to see thousands of people enjoying the day," she said.

A highlight of the day was the presence of two of our revered long term residents Dave and June Corrie. The day coincided with June's 97th birthday which was celebrated by the attendees in singing her the Happy Birthday song.



June and David Corrie pose with YKRA President (L) and Vice President (R)

The festival would not be possible without the generous support of our sponsors: LJ Hooker, Hillebrand RE, Yorkeys Medical and Yorkeys Knob Boat Club. Also, a big thank you to Cairns Council for their assistance.

OAM AWARDED TO WENDY LION

Wendy Lion has been awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for her work as former Director of the Yorkeys Knob Kindergarten and Preschool, and her role in establishing the facility and teaching there over a twenty-year period. Wendy was key driver in the successful effort to have the school transferred from the shared facility in the old Yorkeys Knob Community Hall to a new purpose-built facility in Best Street in the early 1980's.



"Tireless" Yorkeys Knob educator awarded King's Birthday honour

Wendy dedicated the award to the staff, committee members, local businesses and children who have embraced the centre to make it what it is today.

THE OLD YORKEYS KNOB PRIMARY SCHOOL AND SCHOOLMASTERS HOUSE.

The original Yorkeys Knob Primary School was a highset one room building that opened for a class of 19 students in February 1957. The building was extended between 1966-1969 to accommodate growing student numbers, and by 1975 there were 108 students and four teachers. Two demountable classrooms had been installed to accommodate the extra students, but it was clear that the town's population had exceeded the capacity of the school to accommodate its students and the new school was opened in 1980.

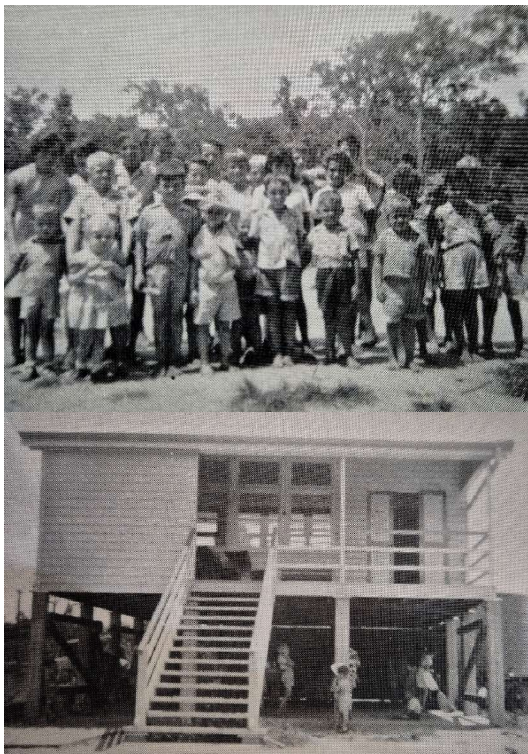
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As well as teaching, since its inception, the old school building had doubled as a social centre for many groups including playgroups, progress association meetings, small functions, martial arts, ballroom dancing practice, yoga, exercise classes and the like. The building was HQ for Yorkeys Knob SES for nearly forty years (1980-2020).

YKRA believe that the long history of the building and its core role in the evolution of the Yorkeys Knob community as it grew over the decades should be acknowledged through heritage listing of the building and the associated Schoolmasters house.

We are well along the road to compiling a case for heritage listing and will be approaching Cairns Council regarding making an application in the near future.



The original one room school and the first-year students 1957

Yorkeys Knob State School

Enrolments Open Prep 2027

YORKEYS KNOB STORY MAP

ESRI (Environmental Systems Research Institute) is a digital mapping software system established by Jack and Laura Dangerfield in California in 1969 and since then has become the largest Geographic Information System (GIS) software provider in the world. Esri have developed ArcGIS Story Maps as a platform for users to combine maps, 3D scenes, embedded content, multimedia, and more into an interactive narrative that can create awareness, influence opinion, and affect change.

The software is a geospatial storytelling platform within which users develop and publish their stories. This link will take you to the story map gallery which has dozens of interesting stories: <https://storyscape-esriwhere.hub.arcgis.com/>

The Yorkeys Knob Story map was created by our Vice President Dr Danial Vavrova, and is a proud part of the story map community and can be accessed via the link or by scanning the QR code in the image: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/334aab462c38431c83e002c4bcee0207>

Perhaps most importantly, the Yorkeys Knob Story map is an archive of the people, places and events that together form our living history. It is continually being updated as additional material comes to hand. Thank you Daniela for this gift.



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CAIRNS AND FAR NORTH ENVIRONMENT CENTRE (CAFNEC) TREE ACTION GROUP (TAG)

Failure of Council's vegetation management code to prevent removal of our shade trees from our streetscapes was brought to the attention of the public and media recently by the removal of a large tree in Freshwater, despite vigorous opposition from the community.

Cairns is gradually losing its leafy character from removal of large old trees, commonly to allow developments to proceed.

CAFNEC are lobbying Council to revise their Codes to provide better protection for trees. In order to better understand the extent of our tree cover, they have introduced a "Save our Shade" project, in which residents can upload details of trees on their property to improve our understanding of tree cover on private property and hopefully provide better protection. You can scan the QR Code below to obtain access to the register and more details.

Register Trees in your backyard!

Have you got an iconic tree in your backyard? Can you document it to help us build a Register of Significant Trees across Cairns?

Many trees on private land are not mapped or protected despite their significant contributions to cooling our neighbourhoods & habitat for iconic wildlife.

Cairns and Far North Environment Centre's Tree Action Group is working with Yorkeys Knob Residents Association to map Significant trees and need your help! Use the form below to document the trees in your backyard.

Scan the Code to register your tree!

It takes a long time to grow an old tree.

TREE ACTION GROUP

cairns and Far North Environment Centre

BREE JAMES COLUMN

This month's State Budget delivers continued investment across health, housing, infrastructure and education for Far North Queensland. Key projects benefiting our coastal communities include progress on the Cairns Western Arterial Road, significant funding to protect the Great Barrier Reef, and the ongoing expansion of Cairns Hospital to meet the needs of our growing region.

Local schools will also see ongoing maintenance and upgrades, ensuring students have access to safe, modern learning environments. I am also pleased to see funding supporting the Yorkeys Knob Early Education Centre, strengthening early learning opportunities for local families.

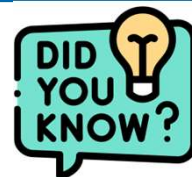
Households across the region will benefit from cost-of-living relief, including a 6.9 per cent reduction in electricity prices for Ergon customers and a 7.9 per cent decrease for small businesses.

I'm thrilled to also announce we've secured a new long-term lessee for Double Island! Plans include public access, luxury accommodation, a beach bar, and a restaurant, bringing back a true jewel of Queensland tourism. Best of all, the lessee is Morris Group, a highly regarded North Queensland owner and operator.

These investments reflect the strength of our local community and help ensure it remains active, connected and thriving.

Until next month,

BREE JAMES MP
MEMBER FOR BARRON RIVER



Cairns is the only place on Earth where two UNESCO World Heritage-listed sites sit side-by-side: the 80-million-year-old Daintree Rainforest and the Great Barrier Reef.

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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.



Shop 7, 471-475 Varley Street, near LJ Hooker.
Open 7 Days a Week
6:30-2:00 ish Mon-Fri and 6:30-12:00 at Weekends
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.

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



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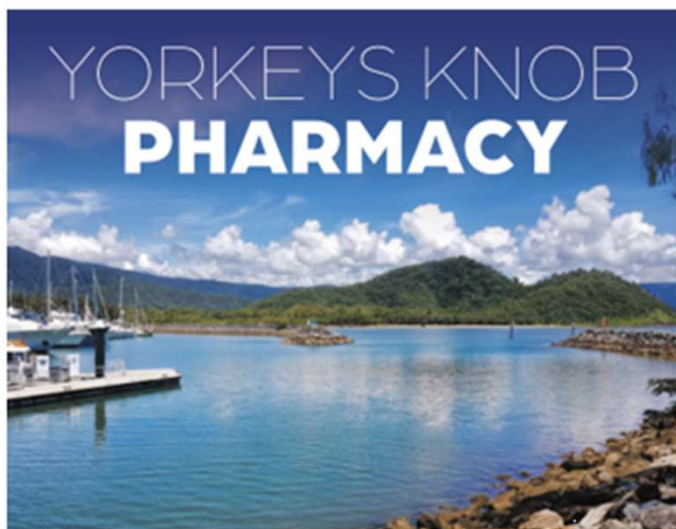
E: reception@hpgcairns.com.au

SOCIAL MEMBERSHIP AVAILABLE

\$5 Social Membership available at Half Moon Bay Golf Club

SEE THE TEAM IN THE GOLF SHOP TO JOIN!

Find us on Facebook



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

- Very competitive prices on prescription medicines
 - A wide range of over-the-counter (OTC) medications, including trusted brands like Moogoo - all at great prices
 - Compounding services for a big range of medications
 - Support with Nicotine Replacement Therapy - we're here to help you quit smoking, safely and effectively
 - Free blood pressure checks - no appointment needed
 - Medication reviews and media checks to ensure you're on the right treatment
 - Webster packing - keeping your medication routine organised and stress-free
 - A selection of premium perfumes, including favourites like Calvin Klein Eternity - perfect as a gift or a personal treat
 - 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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YORKEYS KNOB RESIDENT'S ASSOCIATION APPLICATION FORM



yorkeysknob.com

YORKEYS KNOB RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC.

EMAIL: residentsykra@gmail.com

MAIL: PO Box 256, Yorkeys Knob QLD 4878

WEB: www.yorkeysknob.com

ABN: 77 301 468 681

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 a copy of this form and details of payment to residentsykra@gmail.com or bring the completed form to a monthly meeting.