YORKEYS KNOB MATTERS

Yorkeys Knob
Yorkeys Knob Residents Association

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A Note from the President

Dear YKRA Members and Friends,

I am honoured to be the new YKRA President. I would like to sincerely thank all previous Management Committee members and Presidents. Your dedication and achievements have been a great inspiration to me and have encouraged me to continue YKRA's work and its valuable contribution to our community.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working on some wonderful community projects this year. One of the biggest rewards has been the publication of *Tides of Memory: A Living History of Yorkeys Knob*. What started as an initial idea has grown into a fantastic Living Archive, created to be preserved for generations to come. An interactive map has also been developed as a complementary resource to the book.

Please see the image below for the QR codes to access the interactive map and purchase the book, if you haven't already. Villa Marine still has a few printed copies available; otherwise, the book can be purchased online. You can also find more information on the YKRA website.

Our Time Capsule project has also become a reality! The capsule was buried on 10 October, with a wonderful turnout of local residents and fellow politicians. Everyone

A Date for Your Diary

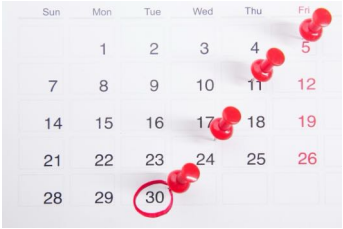
Please remember that there will be no regular YKRA meeting in November. Instead, we will get together for our Christmas gathering at the YK Boating Club on Friday



27 November at **17.30**
Our regular YKRA meetings will resume in **February 2027**.

Please RSVP and arrange payment of the $5 catering contribution to the YKRA account listed at the end of the newsletter prior to attending. We look forward to seeing you there!

Click on the calendar below to access the YKRA calendar



contributed in their own way to make this a memorable occasion. A special thank you to the YK Boating Club for their collaboration and for providing the catering for the ceremony. We will be creating a dedicated page on the YKRA website to share the story of the Time Capsule. In the meantime, you can revisit the event through the photographs here. We were also successful in having the *MV Tropic Seas* registered as a historical vessel, recognising its important legacy. In addition, the heritage-listing application for the YK Old School and School Master's House is now underway.

Our subcommittee, the YK Disaster and Resilience Group (YKDRG), led by Michelle Taillier YKRA's new Secretary, continues to do an amazing job preparing local residents for future severe weather events and building community resilience.

The Festival of the Knob and Twilight Markets successfully continue thanks to Amanda Snow YKRA's new Vice President. Valerie Partridge is the Treasurer, and the Committee Members are Allan Cullington, Frank Fisher, and Stuart Snow.

The new YKRA committee is made up of strong group of women, with supportive men cheering them on in the background. And there are plenty more interesting projects and opportunities ahead in the coming year!

YKRA deeply cares about our residents and the community we all share. Everyone contributes in their own way, and every contribution makes a difference. We have also established an official YKRA Facebook page. Please visit and follow us to stay informed about current and upcoming events, projects and other YKRA matters. Thank to Moira Stephens for her time and effort to administer the Facebook page and for doing the new design for *YK Matters*.

Dr Daniela Vávrová

Time Capsule Ceremony

To commemorate the 150th anniversary of the founding of Cairns, Yorkeys Knob Residents Association, in partnership with Yorkeys Knob Boating Club, buried a Time Capsule in the Boat Cub's Memorial Garden on Saturday October 10.

About 70 people attended the event, which was opened by Uncle George Singleton, an elder of the Yirrganydji people, the traditional custodians of this area. Federal member Matt Smith and Council representative Rhonda Coghlan were present and gave short speeches on their perspective, as did Jen Rees, representing Bree James who could not attend.

The stainless-steel capsule itself was the largest one readily available and was enclosed in a PVC outer casing adapted from sanitary drainage pipe. A concrete block headstone sits over the capsule with a plaque engraved with the following words:

On 10 October 2026, we buried this Time Capsule to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the founding of Cairns. May those who open it in 2126 remember us and our love for this place.

The capsule contents were curated by Daniela Vávrová and included a diverse mix of documents, objects and artefacts including a Corsair Survivor 64GB USB flash drive containing digital information, the recently published book *Tides of Memory: A Living History of Yorkeys Knob*, the book *A History of Yorkeys Knob Boating Club* by Timothy Bottoms, and bar fridge sized bottle of Bundaberg rum.

The details of the Time Capsule have been registered with the International Time Capsule Society, and Cairns Regional Council.

The Yorkeys Knob Boat Club provided drinks and nibbles on their deck after the ceremony.

Our sincere thanks to all those who made this event possible; in particular Krisztina Jahshan, Manager of the Boat Club, Michael Powell and Daniela Vávrová.



Pat Kearney with Jenny and Allan Cullington



Dr Michael Powell and
Dr Daniela Vávrová bury the capsule



Jen Rees, Federal member Matt Smith & Council representative Rhonda Coghlan

YKDRG News

The Yorkeys Knob Disaster Resilience Group (YKDRG) and the Yorkeys Knob Residents Association hosted a Resilience - Prepare to Recover Day at the Yorkeys Knob Community Hall on 25 October 2026.

This free, family-friendly event provided practical information to help residents, businesses and community organisations prepare for future disasters and recover more effectively. Information sessions and displays covered flood preparedness, protecting homes and assets, generators, emergency kits, personal preparedness, recovery planning, insurance and legal matters, business continuity, and financial assistance.

Exhibitors included SES, Tenants Queensland, Centacare, Cairns Regional Council and YKDRG. Children enjoyed a range of interactive activities designed to make learning about disaster preparedness engaging and fun, including colouring activities, a giant interactive map, a treasure hunt, and the Recovery & Resilience Champions challenge, where participants visited stalls and recorded what they had learned. Face painting was provided by Magic Face and Balloon, while Which Way Connect hosted a Discovery Zone featuring hands-on learning activities. Local musician Matt Dobson entertained attendees throughout the day.

The event was made possible through the generous support of local businesses. The Yorkeys Knob Boat Club donated cash vouchers, assisted with promotion, and provided colouring-in sheets. Multy Cut Meats donated sausages, the Yorkeys Knob Bakery supplied bread, and Memories Café contributed delicious brownies.

The event was jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland Governments under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).



Michelle Taillier & Allan Cullington



Belinda Penistone & Which Way Connect



Bria & Harvey Dobson

The Twilight Christmas Markets Update

From Organiser Amanda Snow

Very exciting we have over 75 stallholders now and are hoping to get to 100 stalls with anything and everything for Christmas and plenty of community information tents too. There is something for everyone.

Entertainment all day including a special visit from Santa at 5:30pm coming in at the beach with Hekili and closing the event will be the crowd favourite Drum Infinity.

<u>Food Vendors</u>

Smok 'N' Steel

Tonys Pizzas

Coco Sushi

Mr Panda Street Food

Mama's Kitchen

Whatever Food Truck

Richards Salt and

Pepper Takeaway



<u>Drink Vendors</u>

Macalister Brewing Compnay

Distil on the Hill

Lume Dirty Soda

The Big Lemon Lemonade

Bubble Tea

Mr Dairy Whipp

I am hoping to get some volunteers a few weeks before to help deliver notices to all residents of Yorkeys Knob and some volunteers on the day to help stallholders find their location etc and other logistic work. If you think you could help, please send me an email to gilimali69@gmail.com or call 0431431778.

Ongoing Projects and Challenges

Hooning

This hooligan activity continues to be a problem in the boat ramp precinct and mainly affects the amenity of nearby residents and boaties in the marina.



Hooning offences include dangerous or careless driving, street racing and speed trials, wilfully starting or driving a vehicle to make unnecessary noise or smoke (burnouts, donuts, drifting), high-range speeding (exceeding the speed limit by more than 40km/h), or playing excessively loud music from a car stereo.

Let the authorities know that you want action by contacting the hoon hotline when it is occurring near you or the next day -

just report it every time.

The following link will take you to the Police Hooning website:
https://www.police.qld.gov.au/policelink.../hooning-launch

Beautifying Varley street



A number of gardens are springing up in the dirt islands along Varley Street - why not adopt an island and make Varley Street a green and colourful space both for ourselves and to amaze our visitors. The overall project is ongoing and grants and working bees will be happening in the new year. In the meantime - we have people power and imagination.

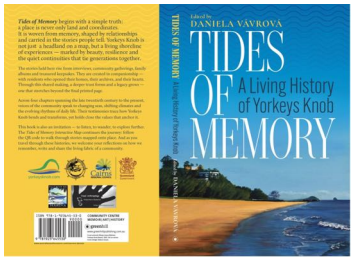
Tree Registry



Don't forget to register your backyard trees if you haven't already. Email residentsykra@gmail.com if you are not sure

Living History Project

Updates about this are ongoing and available on our website here https://yorkeysknob.com/yorkeys-knob-living-history-project/



Yirrganydji Gurabana Aboriginal Corporations (1994–2026)

The Yirrganydji Gurabana Rangers are working tirelessly to protect, preserve and care for the natural environment, including the beautiful reserves and surrounding areas in and around Yorkeys Knob.

As Traditional Custodians of this land, the Yirrganydji people have a deep cultural connection to the country, its waterways, native wildlife and vegetation. Their knowledge, dedication and ongoing work play an important role in ensuring that these natural places are protected and remain healthy for future generations.

The Yirrganydji Gurabana Rangers are actively undertaking surveys and environmental work throughout the area, helping to identify, monitor and protect the natural values that make our local environment so special. They are also keen to build connections and collaborate with the wider Yorkeys Knob community to support the preservation and ongoing health of the land we all enjoy.

YK Matters and YK Website will be regularly updated with information about their work, local environmental initiatives, the cultural and natural significance of our surroundings, and practical ways in which residents can contribute to caring for and protecting our local environment.

We hope this will become a valuable resource for the Yorkeys Knob community, helping us all develop a greater understanding and appreciation of the land on which we live.

A note from Councillor Rhonda Coghlan

Well, what a busy year it's been! As we head towards the end of the year, it's a good time to slow down a little, catch up with family and friends, and enjoy all that our wonderful community has to offer. As this is my last newsletter for the year, I'd like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and safe holiday season.

Old School Park Upgrades

You may have noticed some activity at Old School Park recently, with improvements underway to both the tennis and basketball courts.The planned upgrades this financial year include:

Tennis Court

- New fencing and bottom edging, including a pedestrian gate.
- A new court surface and line markings to accommodate pickleball.
- New net and posts.

Basketball Court

- A new surface and fresh line markings.
- Additional seating.
- Relocation of the bubbler closer to the courts.
- An additional pedestrian gate in the boundary fence.

It's great to see these improvements taking shape, providing better facilities for everyone to enjoy. If you're passing by, take a look at the progress!

Be Prepared This Wet Season

With the wet season upon us, now is the perfect time to familiarise yourself with Council's Disaster Dashboard and make sure you know where to find important information when you need it. We all know how quickly conditions can change in Far North Queensland, so **it's never too early to be prepared!** A little planning now can make a big difference when severe weather approaches.

A big congratulations to the Yorkeys Knob Resilience Group for organising your Prepare and Recover Day, and a sincere thank you to everyone who took the time to attend.I had the opportunity to speak with several people on the day, and the feedback was very positive. It was great to hear that people found the event worthwhile, informative and, importantly, fun!

As we head into the festive season, please take care of yourselves and each other. I hope you all get the opportunity to relax, recharge and enjoy some special time with family and friends.

Have a wonderful Christmas and a safe and a happy New Year.

I look forward to seeing you around Yorkeys Knob in the new year! Please don't hesitate to reach out with any issues, or just say hi.

Regards Rhonda



Councillor Rhonda Coghlan
Division 8
Phone: 07 4044 3078
Mobile: 0477 990 231
r.coghlan@cairns.qld.gov.au

A Note from Bree James,

State Member for Barron River

Hello Yorkeys Knob Residents,

There is plenty happening across Barron River as we head towards the end of the year. Community safety also remains a key priority. Last week, the Crisafulli Government took Breach Bail, Go to Jail reforms to Parliament, delivering some of the toughest bail laws in the country. These laws have passed, and they are about putting victims first and ensuring serious offenders who commit serious crimes while on bail face serious consequences.

One exciting milestone is the completion of Stage One of Skyrail's gondola replacement program. From 4 November, the first of the new gondolas will begin carrying visitors above our spectacular World Heritage rainforest.

I'm also pleased to share the reopening of the Kuranda Weir following extensive recovery works after Tropical Cyclone Jasper. More than $42 million has been invested to rebuild and strengthen this critical piece of infrastructure after significant flood damage.

The project was delivered on time and under budget while supporting local jobs, with 75 Far North Queensland suppliers involved. It's great to see the first barge arrive at Double Island, marking the start of on-ground works as part of the island's $40 million revitalisation. This transformational project will deliver new tourism facilities and breathe new life into one of our region's most iconic destinations.

Music lovers will be thrilled to hear that Australian rock legends Powderfinger have reunited and they are doing an Australian Tour.

Through a targeted and strategic bid, the Crisafulli Government has secured an exclusive regional performance to Cairns, delivering a major win for local tourism, hospitality and businesses.

My Happiness is overflowing about this one!

My Power On, Aussie Strong Generator Giveaway is back. Entries open 1 November, with the winner drawn on Australia Day, it's a great opportunity to share what's on your mind.

Thank you to everyone who attended the recent Yorkeys Knob Resilience Day, please take the time to prepare your household for the months ahead.

Until next time,

Bree James MP

Member for Barron River



A Note from Matt Smith,

Federal Member for Leichhardt

Dear People of Yorkeys Knob,

There's no denying that our part of the world thrives on tourism and hospitality, and I know that many local businesses have expressed concerns about the Government's proposed changes to Backpacker numbers throughout the country and allocation of Working Holiday Visas. I want folks to know that I will always stand up for what's the best outcome for our region, and I have acted fast to propose a solution.

Recently I led a working group delegation to Canberra's Parliament House with local industry representatives from Tourism Tropical North Queensland , Cairns Chamber of Commerce, The Reef Hotel Casino Cairns , Ochre Restaurant & Catering, and the Association of Marine Park Tourism Operators. Other local industries were invited to join us including representatives from the farming and construction sectors.

Our delegation had a series of positive and constructive meetings with the Minister for Home Affairs Tony Burke MP and Murray Watt - Senator for Queensland, as well as officials from the Minister of Trade and Tourism Don Farrell, as we work together to forge the best path forward for our communities on these matters. The cohort is representative of a huge number of businesses and individuals who are critical to the economy of the Far North. My sincerest thanks to Everyone who has reached out to me and engaged in this process. Government policy is best when informed by honest and open discussion, and that is precisely what I and the Albanese Labor Government are continuing to do.

Whilst this is a national issue that will impact tourist numbers and related industries across all of Australia, I'm proud to say our region was the first and to-date the only regional group that has put together a working group to meet with the Ministers; offering real proposed solutions. I will always stand up for what I believe to be right for Leichhardt and Far North Queensland. I will continue to be a megaphone for local voices and a guiding hand for national policy. My conversations with Ministers and stakeholders on this issue have been productive in pushing for the changes our region needs. I will keep advocating for our needs up here and leave it up to others if they wish to pursue the matter in the media instead of engaging with decision makers. I have made sure not only is the North heard, we are leading the discussions.

As ever, if there's anything you believe I can help you with, then please drop me a line at matt.smith.mp@aph.gov.au or come and visit my office at 200 Mulgrave Road, next time you venture into town.

Until next time, take care of one another,

Matt



Thanks 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.

MULTY CUT MEATS EST. 2013



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E: reception@hpgcairns.com.au



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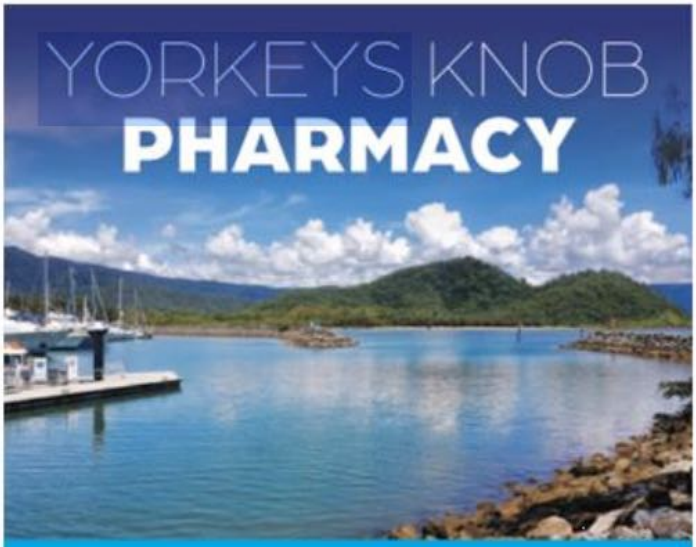
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EMAIL: residentsykra@gmail.com
MAIL: PO Box 256, Yorkeys Knob QLD 4878
WEB: www.yorkeysknob.com
ABN: 77 301 468 681

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.

Or download the form from here:

(Website: www.yorkeysknob.com)

Yes Please -

I want to join Yorkeys Knob Residents Association