



# Yarrabah News

PLEASE note there may be some images of deceased persons within this publication.

V3 Issue 3 THURSDAY 28 February 2019

## Proud day for new carpenters

More than three years of hard work, determination and commitment has paid off for five of our finest young men who have recently graduated from their apprenticeships and are now fully-fledged Carpenters.

The five have already been instrumental in the construction of more than 20 houses in Yarrabah during their training, and are currently working on another four to be completed by June this year.

Last year graduate Charles Murgha told the ABC's Ann Arnold how boys had stopped to watch the work they were doing and ask them how they could get a job building houses when they left school.

He said completing the apprenticeship made him proud.

YASC Works & Infrastructure Executive Manager Dawn Lake said the Council and community was also proud of their achievements.

"These men completed their pre-vocational and on-the-job training while they worked on house upgrades in Yarrabah for six months before they joined the Council," she said.

"Over the past three years they have worked on the construction of no less than 23 houses in the community.

"Fredrick, Roy, Coleridge, Wendell and Charles have gained valuable skills from their mentors Gerard Cullen,



Wes Gray and Colin Fourmile since the very beginning of the New Housing Construction program, which started in 2015.

"Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council is proud of their achievements both at work and in their own lives.

"We thank every member of the new housing construction team for their dedication and hard work."



**MAYORS MEET PM - FULL STORY INSIDE**



Pictured are the FNQ Mayors & CEOs with MP Bob Katter; the Hon Ed Husic MP, Shadow Minister for Digital Economy

# Mayors make their cases in

A delegation of nine far north Queensland Mayors and CEOs, including Cr Andrews, present a federal election 'wish list' to politicians in Canberra last week.

Cr Andrews said he was invited to present to Prime Minister Scott Morrison on behalf of the delegation on housing issues across the region, which included Cape York.

"I gave a presentation to the Prime Minister on the National Partnership Agreement on Re-mote Indigenous Housing (NPARIH)," he said.

"They haven't really moved on it and it's still a political football between the federal government and the states.

"The best we can do is just keep talking to our politicians about it, and plugging our case."

Cairns Mayor Bob Manning said the unity shown by the delegation was important.

"This delegation provided an opportunity for all Far North Queensland councils to work together for the good of the broader region," Cr Manning said.

"A shared approach holds greater weight and demonstrates the level of cooperation and coordination we have up here."

Cr Andrews said there were spin-offs for everyone in the range of commitments sought by the group,

which included environmental management, tourism infrastructure, digital connectivity, Great Barrier Reef management and housing for Indigenous communities.

The Mayors were Cr Bob Manning – Cairns Regional; Cr Jack Bawden – Carpentaria Shire; Cr John Kremmer – Cassowary Coast Regional; Cr Scott – Cook Shire (Deputy Chair); Cr Trevor Pickering – Croyden Shire; Cr Julia Leu – Douglas Shire; Cr V Devlin – Etheridge Shire; Cr Joe Paronella – Tablelands Regional; Cr Ross Andrews – Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council.

*The United Nations General Assembly declared 2019 the International Year of Indigenous Languages (IY2019) to raise awareness of the crucial role languages play in people's daily lives. One of Yarrabah's many contributions to language survival over the years was the*

*translation of several popular nursery rhymes into the traditional language of the Kunggandji people in 2016. The First 5 Forever webpage has revived the story of the posters, featuring this lovely picture of Indigenous Knowledge Coordinator Pam Mundraby.*

*You can check it out at <http://first5forever.org.au/popular-nursery-rhymes-in-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-languages/>*



## New webpage shop for local

Yarrabah community has a new webpage for weather and road related with the 'Yarrabah Cyclone Dashboard' (picture)

The page is auspiced by the Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council and has been developed by Ian Tilley from Crisis Dashboards with on-the-ground support from Cathrena McRae, who said the page featured all the latest information.



...y; and, Queensland Senator Murray Watt

# n Canberra

...r Ross Andrews, joined forces to

Shire. The CEOs were Peter Franks – Mareeba Shire; Eileen Deemal-Hall – Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire; and , Steve Linnane – Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire.

Key meetings include with Treasurer Josh Frydenberg, Northern Australia Minister Matthew Canavan, Shadow Minister for Northern Australia, Jason Clare, Defence Shadow Minister Richard Marles and Shadow Treasurer Chris Bowen.

In total, more than 20 meetings with Ministers, Shadow Ministers, Senators and senior advisors were scheduled across three days.

## offers 'one stop' weather info

...ray of keeping up to date with all things ... the development of a new webpage called ... (red right).

Rain, winds, tides, road conditions and closures and all weather updates are all easily accessed," she said.

Everything is on one page so it's easy to see and organised to give as much information as possible.

"It's especially important to have a resource such as this when the community is on a cyclone watch or subject to any weather warnings, or even just during our regular wet season – it's a one-stop shop."

The page is at <http://www.cyclonedashboard.com/yarrabah.php>.

"If anyone has any suggestions or questions about the page give me a call on 0418 763 983 or email [cathrena@crisisdashboards.com.au](mailto:cathrena@crisisdashboards.com.au)," Cathrena said.



Yarrabah Councillors Michael Sands, Nadine Cannon & Colin Cedric recently welcomed Yarrabah's new Acting Officer-in-Charge Geoff Stockall. Former OIC Erin Shawcoss has taken up a position in Yeppoon. The Council wishes the both of them the best of luck on behalf of YASC and the community.

The Cairns South Sea Island Committee (CSSIC) will hold their 2019 AGM at the Manoora Community Centre in Cairns on Saturday.

Chair James Leftwich said there were several members of the committee based in Yarrabah.

CSSIC was formed in late 2012 to help mark the 2013 150th South Sea Island celebrations.

As a part of these celebration the committee visited Yarrabah with guests Bonita Mabo, the Leweton Cultural Village Performers from Vanuatu and Miriki Performing Arts.

Pictured at the 2013 meeting was Lavin Keyes, Vincent Sands, the late Lewis Sands, Clifford Ambrym and Eric Sands.



Mr Leftwich said the AGM would be an open discussion about future plans.

"Everyone is welcome," he said.

The meeting will be held from 4-5.30pm at 29 Marchant St, Manoora.

For more information message 'Cairns South Sea Island Committee' on Facebook or call James Leftwich on 0488 189 159.



Yarrabah News is published fortnightly by the Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council and edited by Christine Howes. Members of the Yarrabah community and local organisations are welcome to submit birthdays, community information, pics, yarns and letters to the Editor.

Don't forget you can follow us on Facebook!

Yarrabah News is online at <http://www.chowes.com.au>

For more information contact Christine Howes on

0419 656 277 or [chowes@westnet.com.au](mailto:chowes@westnet.com.au)

OUR next deadline is  
**Thursday  
7 MARCH**  
FOR PUBLICATION ON  
**Thursday  
14 March**