

Yorkeys Knob Matters

President's Report

Welcome to the April edition of our newsletter. I hope you all enjoyed the Easter break recently.

The preparations are well underway for the **Festival of the Knob**, to be held on Saturday 8th June. Stallholders are coming on board, as are entertainers, with the food and beverage area almost finalised. We were fortunate to receive some assistance from Bunnings in Smithfield, in the form of \$200 toward the purchase of some trestle tables to be used in the food and beverage area. These will add to the new chairs that the association purchased and took delivery of this year. We hope the extra seating will help with the comfort of people attending the event while they enjoy the food and beverage area. For any inquiries in relation to the festival, contact residents@yorkeysknob.com

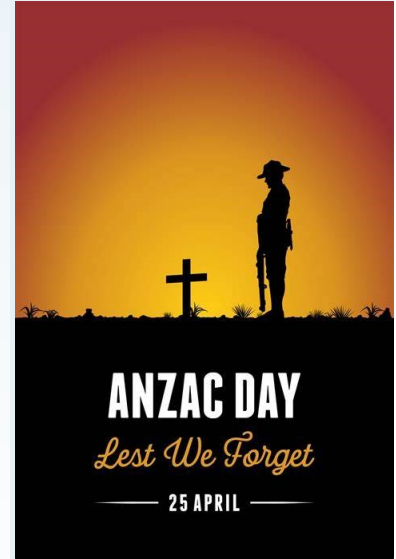
The Yorkeys Knob Residents Association is again pleased to take part in, and support this year's **ANZAC Day** ceremony to be held at the Yorkeys Knob Boating Club. The ceremony will commence at **8am Thursday 25th April**. Get there early for a good position to see the ceremony and contact the club for details, on 07 4055 7711.

At the last monthly meeting of the residents association, held on Tuesday 26th March, committee member Dorothy Sibly reported on our representation at the state government's community cabinet meeting that was held in Cairns this year. It provided an opportunity for our voice, together with our neighbouring suburbs, to be heard at the cabinet level. Check out Dorothy's report on page 4 of this newsletter.

There have been a few inquiries made to the association concerning the construction and heavy machinery on the farm at the entrance to Yorkeys Knob. Inquiries were subsequently made to Cr Coghlan who advised that as the premises are primary production, the machinery and temporary accommodation were permissible on the farm operations.

Next meeting 7.30pm TUESDAY 30th APRIL 2024
Yorkeys Knob Community Centre

Adrian Gover
President



ANZAC Day 2024
Yorkeys Knob Boating Club

Inside this issue

- A note from the Doctor 2
- Local Government Elections 3
- Letter of app'n—Cairns Water.... 3
- Community Cabinet Meeting 4

YORKEYS KNOB
RESIDENTS
ASSOCIATION





**Yorkeys
Medical**

1D 455 Varley Street
Yorkeys Knob Q 4878
Ph: 07 4220 9884

Email: admin@yorkeys-medical.com.au



Irukandji
Image from Australian Geographic



Australian Box Jellyfish
Image from National Geographic

A Note From Our Doctor

Lurking Dangers: Marine Stingers of North Queensland

The waters of North Queensland beckon swimmers and snorkelers, but hidden dangers lurk beneath the surface – marine stingers. Among these, the infamous box jellyfish and the deceptively tiny Irukandji pose the greatest risks to unwary beachgoers.

The Box Jellyfish: A Potent Threat

With its translucent, box-shaped body and long, trailing tentacles, the box jellyfish (*Chironex fleckeri*) is a formidable force. Its venom is one of the most potent in the animal kingdom, capable of causing excruciating pain, paralysis, cardiac arrest, and even death within minutes.

The Irukandji: Small but Deadly

The Irukandji jellyfish is often invisible to the naked eye, measuring only about a cubic centimetre. However, don't let its size fool you. Irukandji stings initially may seem insignificant, but 30-40 minutes later, a cluster of agonising symptoms known as Irukandji syndrome can set in. This can include severe back and muscle pain, nausea, vomiting, sweating, and potentially life-threatening complications.

Stinger Season: Know When to Be Wary

Marine stinger season in North Queensland typically extends from November to May. Popular beaches often have stinger nets and lifeguards for protection, but it's crucial to remain vigilant as these do not provide 100% protection.

Prevention is Key

- Swim in Protected Areas: Adhere to designated swimming areas with stinger nets.
- Wear a Stinger Suit: A full-body lycra stinger suit provides significant protection.
- Stay Informed: Heed warning signs and advice from lifeguards and local authorities.

First Aid: Act Fast, Save Lives

Should you or someone nearby be stung, immediate action is critical:

1. Remove from Water: Carefully bring the victim to shore.
2. Douse with Vinegar: Flood the affected area liberally with vinegar for at least 30 seconds. This deactivates stinging cells.
3. Remove Tentacles: Use tweezers or a gloved hand to remove any remaining tentacles carefully.
4. Seek Medical Help: Call for emergency services (000 in Australia) immediately, especially if you suspect Irukandji or box jellyfish stings.



A Note From Our Doctor cont....

Remember:

- Do not rub the sting area
- Do not use fresh water or urine
- Do not apply pressure bandages in the case of box jellyfish stings

Protect Yourself and Enjoy Our Waters

With some basic precautions and knowledge, you can minimise marine stinger risks and safely enjoy the magnificent waters of North Queensland. Staying informed, wearing protective gear, and knowing how to respond to stings will significantly enhance your safety and allow you to cherish the beauty of our oceans.

Dr Rowan Gibbs
Yorkeys Medical
07 4022 9884

Local Government Elections

The Queensland Local Government elections were held on Saturday 16th March. A field of candidates were vying for positions of Divisional Councillor and also Mayor. Yorkeys Knob falls within Division 8, and results posted by the Electoral Commission of Queensland advise that Councillor Rhonda Coghlan has retained her position with the council. The Mayoral position has been won by Amy Eden defeating incumbent Terry James. Congratulations to the successful candidates on their wins as our representatives in local government.

A Note of Appreciation—Cairns Water

A compliment due to Cairns Water for quick repairs to a broken water main outside 67 Cunningham Street Yorkeys Knob. I woke up at 2:30am from the sound of what I thought was a Landcruiser on the road with engine idling, then the noise got louder so I went outside to investigate. Lo and behold, a Cairns Water truck was there with equipment excavating a broken water main and replacing with a new length of pastel blue water main pipe. A resident nearby had reported the leak about midnight and the repair completed in the early hours of the morning with the road pavement, kerb and driveway temporarily restored. Thanks to Cairns Water for their prompt attention to the incident.

Warren Bartlett
YKRA member & resident



Dine in or take away
Salads, Pizzas,
Burgers, Fish & Chips
and Coffee
Open
Tue-Fri 10am - 8pm
Sat-Sun 11am - 8pm
Mon Closed

Ph 4055 8221

YORKEYS JUDO & TRAINING DOJO
2000-2023



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**

Community Cabinet Meeting

The Community Cabinet Meeting was held on Wednesday 28 February at Crosswell Hall Cairns High School

The meeting was attended by delegates from the Combined Beaches Residents Working Group, comprising residents of Machans Beach, Holloways Beach and Yorkeys Knob. These delegates also represented Kamerunga and Caravonica.

The Working Group had written submissions to the 11 Cabinet Ministers and the Premier. We were granted a face-to-face meeting with the Honourable Nikki Boyd, Minister for Disaster Recovery. Also in attendance were Steven Smith the Assistant Commissioner for Qld Fire and Emergency Services, and Jake Ellwood CEO Qld Reconstruction Authority.

We focussed on 2 major issues in our submissions:

1. That the Barron River Delta Investigation 1981 be updated, based on evidence from hydrology studies to examine, for example;
 - flooding levels at Yorkeys Knob and Holloways Beach due to levee banks surrounding sand mining
 - flooding levels at the 3 beaches due to siltation levels at the junction of the Barron River and Thomatis Creek.
2. That an immediate moratorium be placed on further incremental development approvals in the Barron River Delta.

Responses to our submissions and presentations at the meeting;

- Jake Ellwood supported these, stating he would investigate additional funding to address the flood risk in the Delta.
- Steven Smith stated he would speak to the Minister for Police and Community about matters pertaining to the SES, for example that skills and training of volunteers be as flexible as possible.
- The Hon Nikki Bord congratulated our deputation on the submissions we presented. She appeared to be conversant with our concerns and our need to develop strategies and policies to mitigate the threat of future floods.

We were encouraged to meet with the Cairns Regional Council to participate in discussions with them, in particular examining the Barron River Delta Investigation. We must ask questions of any new investigation, for example , what are the terms of reference? will the terms of reference only be updated not re-examined? will the public be able to review the terms of reference and add to them?

Overall, we felt that the submissions and the meeting we had with the Minister and Heads of Departments was a worthwhile endeavour. However, it remains to be seen how far our communities' concerns are included in any future investigations and reviews of the flood event that was experienced in the Delta in December 2023.

**Dorothy Sibly
YKRA**



1E, 455 Varley St Yorkeys Knob
Ph: 4081 0810
E: reception@hpgcairns.com.au

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"