



Yarrabah News

Paradise by the Sea

Published by Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council

VOLUME 152- August 2011

RAIDS TARGET LOAN SHARK OPERATIONS



Investigators from the Office of Fair Trading and the Australian Securities and Investment Commission have raided two properties in Cairns as part of an investigation into loan sharking at Yarrabah.

Officers executed search warrants at houses at Edge Hill and Bentley Park and seized documents, credit cards and records containing PIN numbers as well as computer equipment. Executive Director of the Office of Fair Trading, Brian Bauer, said a 57-year-old Cairns man was assisting investigators with their enquiries into allegations of a loan sharking.

“The Office of Fair Trading received information that a person was allegedly engaging in loan sharking activity in the Yarrabah community. “Short term loans were offered to members of the community at grossly inflated payments,” he said. “Under the Consumer Credit Code the maximum annual percentage rate that can be applied to a short-term loan held by a Queensland resident is 48 percent. “In this matter, we are investigating allegations that the person is charging annual interest of more than 520 percent.” Mr Bauer said all Queensland residents needed to be aware of their rights under the

Consumer Credit Code in relation to short term or pay-day loans.

“The National Consumer Credit Code, which is now regulated by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission, provides consumers certain protections when they enter into regulated credit contracts such as loans or credit for personal, household and domestic purposes. “All credit providers are now required to be licensed or be authorised credit representatives. “Inquiries are continuing in respect of allegations that this lender is not authorised to conduct credit activities.” “The 48 percent cap that applies to loans for Queenslanders was put in place in 2008 to protect vulnerable consumers from becoming victims of exorbitant interest rate charges, like the 1600 percent interests rate that we’ve seen in some past cases. “We encourage all consumers considering a loan to investigate the arrangement carefully and not be lured by loans that may offer an attractive quick fix. “Compare products that other lenders offer to ensure you do not get slapped with excessive fees and charges. Mr Bauer said people should look for community groups that offer free credit to low income households for essential household goods, such as Good Shepherd’s ‘No Interest Loan Scheme’. He said consumers should never give anyone their PIN. numbers.

TAX SCAM PAGE 5

THIS EDITION



ATO scam alert



Community plan



Men’s health forum



Careers in health



Sydney school visit



Rat control



COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN TO TARGET VANDALISM AND EXCESSIVE NOISE

By Yarrabah Mayor, Percy Neal

Despite repeated appeals for community cooperation two of the big problems – vandalism and excessive noise – continue to plague Yarrabah’s residents.

Council is now in the process of setting up a campaign with the support of the schools and community organisations to clamp down on this antisocial behaviour. If these problems continue we will consider “naming and shaming” offenders as part of the campaign. The noise problem has worsened despite recent appeals for parents, individuals and party organisers to take a more responsible approach. One recent 21st birthday party in the community generated excessive noise all night then all through the next day. Four elders live close to the party venue and their sleep and

health were badly affected by this inconsiderate behaviour. We want the schoolchildren to lead the anti noise campaign and a protest march through the community has already been discussed. Community elders, men and women have also got to take responsibility and let offenders know that their behaviour will not be tolerated. The State police are also being encouraged to be more proactive as they have strong enforcement powers under state noise abatement legislation including the power to confiscate the source of excessive noise. Council has no objection to organised entertainment or private parties where they are properly organised and permission is sought from council or police for entertainment that ends before it creates problems in the community. The health of our elders and our young people is being affected by an inconsiderate few people and it is time for them to start showing some respect for our community.

CALL FOR MORE INDIGENOUS COUNCIL CONSULTATION

The Local Government Association of Queensland has called for the state’s 17 indigenous local councils to have a key role in coordinating efforts to reduce Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander disadvantage.

President, Paul Bell, said the Australian government’s report on the Strategic Review of Indigenous Expenditure, released under Freedom of Information laws, showed that policies aimed at reducing Indigenous disadvantage needed to be targeted to local needs. Councillor Bell said effective partnership between the Commonwealth and State government were critical to the implementation of the Indigenous reform agenda and to the achievement of the Closing the Gap targets. "Sustainable reform will only be achieved when those partnerships extend to local government as well," he said. "This is particularly pertinent in Indigenous communities." "Mayors and councillors in those communities are democratically elected to represent the interests of those community members. "They live and



QLGA President, Paul Bell— more consultation

work in the community they represent.' "They know the local situation and are a voice for those local people" He said both the Federal and State government should recommit themselves to genuinely listen to and formally engage with these local government representatives. "Too often, local people and their representatives are consulted but only after the state or Commonwealth have made their determinations on what to do and what they think is needed and then seeking local feedback on those proposals," he said. "Now is an ideal time for new collaborative models to be set in place. "Let’s not have good intentions and advice of "expert" remote commentators lead us to making the same mistakes all over again." "We have good and competent local representatives listen to them, engage with them." Councillor Bell said the LGAQ was eager to work with the Australian Government to encourage a new era in Commonwealth and Indigenous Local Government collaboration.

CAMPAIGN CALLS FOR TRADITIONAL HUNTING MORATORIUM

A campaign has been launched for a moratorium on the hunting of dugongs and sea turtles around the Australian coastline by Indigenous hunters under Native Title.

The television commercial campaign aired this month in New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland. Wildlife campaigner, Bob Irwin, said hundreds of the endangered animals were washing up dead along the coastline from unknown causes.

“Uncontrolled and unmonitored hunting is a pressure they do not need,” Mr Irwin said.



“I have also decided to speak out because Queensland the only state in Australia that does not have cruelty laws in relation to indigenous hunting.” Mr Irwin was supported in the commercials by James Epong, an Indigenous Australian and son of Elders and Sea Country people of the Mandubarra mob, Henry and Nellie

Epong. Renowned marine documentary maker and diver, Ben Cropp, appeared in separate commercials calling for support for the moratorium.

WWF SAYS NORTH FACING A MARINE WILDLIFE CRISIS

The World Wildlife Fund Australia claims a wildlife crisis is developing along parts of Australia’s Great Barrier Reef coast with reports of unusually high numbers of endangered turtles washing up dead or starving.



WWF is calling on both sides of Queensland politics to commit to building greater resilience in populations of threatened marine species on the Great Barrier Reef through reforming net fisheries, reducing land-based pollution on the reef, and better managing large coastal developments.

WWF has received numerous reports from Traditional Owner groups north and south of Townsville of large numbers of sick, starving and dead turtles washing up on beaches following the loss of sea grasses after Cyclone Yasi and the floods. The increase in turtle deaths for April may be more than five times higher this year as compared to the same time last year. “If these numbers are accurate, then this is a shocking development for the Great Barrier Reef. “We urgently need clarification from the Queensland government on how many

turtles are being found dead along the Great Barrier Reef coast,” said WWF’s Conservation on Country Manager, Cliff Cobbo. Turtle hospitals are being overwhelmed with sick and starving animals and do not have the resources to handle the number of turtles expected to need emergency care over

the next 18 months. Some local traditional owner groups have been so concerned by what they are seeing they will suspend issuing traditional owner hunting permits within their saltwater country. CEO of the Girringun Aboriginal Corporation, Phil Rist, said Traditional Owner groups had found large numbers of dead turtles and dugongs in recent weeks.” “Girringun rangers have found numerous starved turtles and dugongs along Girringun saltwater country. “Strandings are occurring on a weekly basis,” Mr Rist said.

WWF believes that recent extreme weather events like Cyclone Yasi and the Queensland floods have combined with additional threats to turtles and their habitats such as entanglement in fishing nets, water pollution and large-scale coastal developments.



A lot of cleaning up to do. Pictured Karlina See Kee, GBRMPA; Heidi Taylor, Tangaroa Blue Ocean Care Society; Alicia Smith, primary science YSS; Sylvia Wagner, teacher YSS; Linda Heap, GBRMPA and Alfred Grey, YASC ranger.

REEF GUARDIAN BEACH CLEAN UP

Planning has started for a Reef Guardians clean up targeting Yarrabah beaches and foreshores.

The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority supported clean up is expected to be conducted later this year. The authority launched the Reef Guardian program in 2003 with Reef Guardian schools. The initiative now has more than 230 schools and over 60,000 students involved in building the resilience of the reef. Following on from the success of the schools program, the initiative was expanded to include councils in 2007. Currently, 13 councils from Bundaberg to Cooktown are signed up to the program.



RODENT CONTROL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR YARRABAH

Information compiled by Stephen Canendo , Environmental Health Worker Yarrabah

From the many complaints received from a lot of people in the community, most have on many occasions experienced problems with rats and mice in their homes.

These rodents are not only carriers of diseases which can be passed on to humans they also do structural damage to houses with their need to constantly chew on things to prevent their incisor teeth from growing too long. Holes are chewed in cupboard and doors plus they have been known to bite through electrical wires in the ceilings, on fridges, stoves, telephone cables and washing machine cords. In the past many stoves both electric and gas have had to be replaced in homes in the community after rats and mice have chewed through electrical cords and copper pipe fittings. This in turn results in expensive repair work to rectify the problems. Preventative actions to stop the rats and mice from entering home need to be put in place. The two members of the rodent family which has been identified as the main causes of the problems in the community are *Ratus Ratus* and *Mus musculus*.



Ratus ratus (Commonly know as the roof rat): Blackish to grey coloured rat with a sharp pointed nose big ears and a tail which is longer than its body. Normally lives for about 9 to 12 months and may breed 4 or 5 times a year with litters comprising of 6 to 8 young in each. Has the ability to start breeding when sexual maturity is reached at an age of 3 to 4 months. Most suited to living in and around houses and are good climbers which allows them to enter houses and buildings up drainpipes, water pipes, power lines ,trees ,plants or vines that are grown too close to the house. These sites can then be used to gain entrance into the home through the ceilings. Likes to nest in cavities in walls and the ceilings of houses old cars plus sheds around buildings.



Mus musculus (Commonly known as the house mouse): Also commonly known as the field mouse. It is much smaller than the roof rat with large ears and also a tail as long as its body. House mice living indoor are usually dark grey in colour with lighter grey on the belly while those living outdoors tend to be a yellowish-brown in colour with white bellies. They tend to live for about 1 year and may have 6 to 10 litters per year [each with 5-6 young]. Ideal nesting sites are in the

spaces behind the walls, in ceilings, under stoves, fridges, in cupboards, lounge seats and boxes used for storing clothes or other materials. Both rodents are potential carriers of diseases that can affect humans including salmonella food poisoning, resulting from contamination of food or food containers through urine and droppings; leptosporosis passed on by bacteria in their urine and droppings; rat bite fever which can occur after being bitten by rats or mic and fungus from mice to humans or mice to cats to humans which causes skin problems and ringworms. These are only a few of the diseases that can affect humans so it is important to follow recommended guidelines to make sure they don't become a problem in your home. Do not grow trees, creepers or plants to close to the house as rats are good climbers and use these to get into the ceilings. Do not allow rubbish to build up into heaps in or outside the yard as these will provide both rats and mice with ideal breeding sites. Get in touch with your council to enquire about removing and then have it ready at either the front of your yard or the back where it can be easily collected. If you intend to build a shed in the backyard with the intention of using it to store stuff make sure once the shed is built remember to the following advice. Make sure items stored in the shed are stacked off the ground to allow you see if there are any signs of their activity through the presence of their droppings. Make sure food scraps are put in a bin with a lid on to deny rats and mice any feeding sites. Also it is recommended to make sure after supper to dispose of scraps properly and plates and saucepans are washed dried and put away. Also ensure the kitchen is kept clean at nights as these are the preferred times when rats and mice are most active in their search for food. Old car bodies either in the yard or outside should be removed as they provide ideal breeding sites for the rodents. Arrangements can be made with the Council to have the car bodies removed. Ensure flyscreens on windows and sliding doors are not damaged plus ensure windows are closed especially at nights. By following these guidelines now or when you move into a new house there is a good chance of rats and mice not becoming a problem in the premises. However if they start becoming a problem in the future report, it to Q Build so steps can be taken to rectify the problem.

ATO WARNS AGAINST EDUCATION SORRY SCAM PAYMENTS

Tax Commissioner Michael D'Ascenzo has warned communities about a scam and encouraged victims to make contact with the ATO.

Mr D'Ascenzo said the scam appeared mainly in Indigenous communities, with victims told they would receive a 'sorry payment from Kevin Rudd' or 'money from Oprah Winfrey' in exchange for providing a payment of up to \$800 and their personal details. "The scam promoters, who sometimes have claimed to work for the ATO, use these details to lodge a fraudulent Education Tax Refund application, a tax refund reserved generally for school related expenses in the victim's name." "The victim may then be issued with a refund cheque by the ATO. "However, the refund is illegal and any money issued will have to be paid back.



"We are aware of over 400 suspected fraudulent lodgements in relation to this scam," Mr D'Ascenzo said. "The ATO does not issue 'sorry payments from Kevin Rudd' or 'money from Oprah Winfrey.' "If you have been approached by a scam promoter or have been the victim of this scam give us a call and we can help you sort it out. "You can contact the ATO during business hours on 08 9268 6417. "The ATO uses community information, data-matching and business and government networks to crack-down on scam promoter all around the country and overseas. "These types of scams take advantage of the community." He said ATO would use the full force of the law against promoters of the scam.

FINANCIAL HELP FOR UNPUBLISHED INDIGENOUS WRITERS

Budding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander authors are invited to enter the 2012 kuril dhagun Indigenous writing fellowship competition which awards two \$10,000 literary fellowships.

Part of the *black&write!* Indigenous writing and editing project, the State Library of Queensland invites published or unpublished Indigenous authors to submit manuscripts in a range of genres from across the country. State Library's Executive Manager Indigenous Research and Projects, Tom Mosby, encourages Indigenous authors to submit entries before the closing date of 31 January 2012. Mr Mosby said the winners of the inaugural writing fellowships, a verse poet and a youth fiction writer, serve as inspiration to others. "South Australia's Ali Cobby Eckermann was selected for her verse novel *Ruby Moonlight*, and Sue McPherson from Queensland's Sunshine Coast was chosen for her young adult fiction *Grace Beside Me*," Mr Mosby said. "Both writers have received \$10,000 to work on their manuscripts as part of the project intended to address the imbalance of Indigenous authored novels published in Australia. "Ali and Sue's entries stood out from a high quality field of



manuscripts received in this inaugural year, and after four months of intensive editing, their manuscripts are now ready for publication."

The *black&write!* project, which also comprises the kuril dhagun Indigenous Editing Mentorships, was launched at the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair in 2010, as part of State Library's commitment to keeping culture strong. The Fellowships are named after the kuril

dhagun Indigenous Knowledge Centre at State Library in Brisbane, one of 21 throughout Queensland. Project Director, Sue Abbey, described *black&write!* as "a bold, inspiring project designed to nurture talent, flex the participants' creative imagination and change the landscape of Indigenous writing in Australia". "Our goal is for *black&write!* to revitalise and expand contemporary Indigenous writing." Ms Abbey said the *black&write!* project was designed to train, mentor and promote outstanding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander writers and editors. "We also hope to encourage lifelong Indigenous learning and literacy and foster a love of reading, writing and ideas in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities."

For information :

www.slq.qld.gov.au/comps

SUPPORT GROWS FOR CONSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION

A meeting of the Panel appointed by the Prime Minister to provide advice on



how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples could be recognised in the Constitution has considered the outcomes of 40 public consultations held since May.

The consultations have shown that there is very strong support across the community for constitutional recognition. Many people see it as an important step towards creating greater equality and inclusion benefiting all Australians. Recognising the great contribution of the unique cultures, language and history of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Constitution as an essential step towards real and lasting reconciliation, is supported by the vast majority of people participating in consultations. In the Panel's consultations and submissions settling the unfinished business of the place of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples is seen as key to creating a more united, tolerant and respectful society. Over the course of the consultations many ideas about how constitutional recognition could happen have been proposed and are being carefully considered by the Panel. At its meeting, Panel members also considered advice from constitutional lawyers, agreed on its research strategy and heard from

representatives of local government. Panel members have also welcomed the strong level

of support for constitutional recognition reflected in two recent national surveys. A survey of members of the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples found 88 per cent of the 630 respondents regarded constitutional recognition as a top priority. A second survey of 2100 members of Generation One found that 98 per cent wanted formal recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Constitution. These surveys are an important indication of the high level of support for constitutional recognition among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians. The Panel will report to the Government in December on how best to give recognition to Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Constitution, based on the consideration of submissions, research and legal advice. Over the next two months, around 50 more public consultation and other meetings will be held around the country. All Australians are being encouraged to give their views in many ways: by attending a consultation meeting, writing a letter, email or submission or by visiting www.youmeunity.org.au. Submissions can be lodged up until 30 September.

QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES INDIGENOUS JOBS TARGET

The Queensland Government has committed to providing 2800 employment opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the public sector by 2013.



Project 2800 part of our broader commitment to boost the representation of Indigenous employees in the Queensland Public Sector to a minimum of 2.6percent. The Queensland Government is committed to closing the gap between the life outcomes and opportunities experienced by Indigenous people and their non-Indigenous peers. We recognise the important contribution Indigenous employees make by bringing unique skills, knowledge and diversity to the workplace, as well as important insights into how government can work with Indigenous communities more productively. That's why we were the first state to sign the Australian Employment Covenant committing to the future of Indigenous Australians by providing clear pathways to employment and the opportunity

to reach their full career potential. There are already a number of Indigenous employees making a significant contribution to their community and other communities across the state which is why we want to

build on this strong foundation. In partnership with universities, schools, TAFE institutes, employment providers and training organisations, the Queensland Government, through the Public Service Commission (PSC) is assisting Indigenous jobseekers find employment. We are building valuable relationships with Indigenous communities and acknowledging the significant assistance community members and organisations provide in this area. We are also connecting directly with potential candidates to assist them to access suitable pathways to employment in the Queensland Public Sector. At the same time, we are working with all public sector agencies to identify employment opportunities and connect appropriate candidates with real work outcomes.

SYDNEY SCHOOLS MAKES YARRABAH OUTREACH VISIT

One of the largest boarding schools in New South Wales has consolidated its relationship with Yarrabah with 166 students taking part in a sixth annual outreach visit.

The year nine students and 20 teachers from Loreto Normanhurst, Sydney, spent three days in Yarrabah as part of a program that started in 2005. The school group spends two weeks each year in far north Queensland also visiting the Atherton Tablelands, Mossman, the Great Barrier Reef and Djarajun College. Visits to the Cultural Centre and community service at the Aged Persons hostel and schools are on the itinerary during the Yarrabah visit.

Deputy Principal, Ken McMurtie, said part of the tour aim was to allow the girls to gain first hand experience in an indigenous community. "They never see a good story about Indigenous communities in the Sydney newspapers," Mr McMurtie said. "Every year we come up here we go back to Sydney with 166 Ambassadors who are prepared to let other people know about their



A student takes aim at Yarrabah under the watchful eye of Bully Canendo



Ken McMurtie

positive experiences in the communities we visit. "The girls meet people with stories to tell of their sorry times and the stolen generation and it really does help their understanding of the challenges facing indigenous communities. "We also have also have small groups of girls and students visit the Yarrabah schools each year in July and December to help build our connection with the community. "We don't want to be seen as just some posh

Sydney school but genuinely want to make connections to benefit both the girls and the Yarrabah community," he said. Highlights of the visit this year included a community tour planned and hosted by Yarrabah year six students. Mr McMurtie said the Loreto Normanhurst administrators has spoken to Yarrabah education authorities about the possibility of offering fully supported scholarships for Yarrabah students to attend the Sydney school. "We already have four indigenous scholarship students and we are keen to build on our relationship with Yarrabah by offering more scholarships but the talks are only preliminary at this stage."

CONSULTATION STARTS ON YARRABAH COMMUNITY PLAN

The Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council is planning public forums to gather community feedback on a community plan.

A preliminary session will be held on 10 October at 10.00 am at Yarrabah's Rural Training Centre. The YASC'S Transition Manager, Peter Lenoy, said the plan would represent what the community wanted the shire to be like in the future. "The draft community plan sets out a long term vision along with the actions required to make that vision a reality. "What sets a community plan apart from other planning documents is that it belongs to everyone. "No one agency can achieve the vision alone and we need a coordinated contribution from local, state and federal governments, as well as the business sector, non government organisations, community organisations, traditional owner groups and very importantly the community. Mr Lenoy said the plan would have to reflect



the aims and aspirations of the community to have meaning. "We need community people of all ages to have input into this plan. "Now is the time for you to play a role in shaping the future of our region. "Your input will help us refine this draft plan, making sure tomorrow's Yarrabah belongs to all of us." Mr Lenoy said the community would be asked for

formal feedback as part of the plan development. "The Council has a duty to promote the economic and social well being of its residents. "A key way of doing this is the development of a community plan." He said plan priorities would be grouped in themes as a way of identifying what was important for the future wellbeing of our community. Community safety is one of the identified themes with the consultation process designed to decide on actions to help address safety concerns.

YARRABAH HEALTH FORUM TOLD TO LOOK TO THE FUTURE

Men at a health forum in Yarrabah have been told to look to the future and not dwell in the past.

Keynote speaker, the Apunipima Cape York Health Council's Dr Mark Wenitong told the forum situations in the past had disempowered men but changes created new opportunities.

"A lot of things like land loss, the dormitory system, stolen wages, protectors and missions meant Aboriginal men were treated like children and denied the opportunity to act as fathers and family heads. Those things are not excuses for the situation Aboriginal men are in today but we have to acknowledge they played an important part in taking authority and important roles away from men. "You know our fellahs keep quiet a bit, keep doing what we do, put our heads down and not cause too many ripples and things like that. "That is changing now with what men's groups are doing – we are sticking our heads up again and saying we want a solution, we want to take responsibility for us for our lives, for our families, for our communities.

"We know all about the social problems they are happening all the time because they have been highlighted in the Northern Territory intervention. "Men were stereotyped as wife bashing, child molesting and a useless mob and that did a lot of harm to a lot of men. "We are still strong but we have got to regain the ground on some of those issues....we need to get back to those important values in our lives and not be sidetracked by all the dysfunction that happens in our communities." Dr Wenitong said a range of programs were available to help men overcome a lack of control in their lives. "The program the Commonwealth is running the Family



Keynote speaker, Mark Wenitong

Wellbeing program is an empowerment program that starts to get you to have the feeling that you can control some things in your life and that you can change the way you are going.

"We've also done a lot of work around brother care and that just means us taking care of each other better. "If you are down the pub and your friend wants to go drive his car home you've just got to stop him because no one else is going to. "If your brother is bashing his wife you know he's not going to listen to the police or any other mob that comes in but he'll listen to you, he'll listen to his father he'll listen to our mob. "We have got to stand up and say those sort of things to one another, challenge each other and be proud of our culture and the way that we know we should be doing things. "Most of us have an extended family we've got lots of brothers, cousins and we do have good extended relationships we've just to learn how to use them a lot better and take care of each other a lot better. "Most fellahs I know get frustrated and angry about things in life but we've got to figure out better ways of handling that and there are good programs around to help.

Dr Wenitong out lined health statistics that showed Aboriginal men died on average 10 years before non Indigenous men and 75 per cent of Indigenous men died before reaching 65. "I talk to people who are non indigenous about deaths and going to funerals and this one person I have know for 12 years now has never had a death in her family in all those years I've known her. "I've gone to 60 funerals in that time and we think that is kind of normal but it is not normal....it is wrong."

Continued next page

Pilates
Health & Fitness Classes for everyone!
Enjoy Yourself!
Bring your friends along!
Learn deadly moves!
Feel great!

Sessions will be every **MONDAY** at Gurriny's Social Health Building on Workshop St starting 18th July 2011 from 5.00 pm.

For more information contact:
Darren Miller & Colin Costello (Men's Health) 4056 0100
Kayleen Jackson & Seimella Kingburra (Women's Health) 4056 0100
Lucresia Willet (Healthy Lifestyle & Activities Officer) 4056 0100

ZUMBA
Health & Fitness Classes for everyone!
Enjoy Yourself!
Bring your friends along!
Learn deadly moves!
Feel great!

Sessions will be every **WEDNESDAY** at Gurriny's Yarrabah School building starting 20 July 2011 from 5.00pm

For more information contact:
Lucresia Willet (Healthy Lifestyle & Activities Officer) 4056 0100
Darren Miller & Colin Costello (Men's Health) 4056 0100
Kayleen Jackson & Seimella Kingburra (Women's Health) 4056 0100

Men's Walking Group

Do you like walking for fun or exercise?

I am encouraging men of all ages to become physically active and to join our walking group to: **Get Active, Get Fit, Get Healthy, Live longer!**

The Men's Walking Group is starting **health** on **Sundays** and **one Friday 3.30pm**, and **walks** along **Bukki Road** and back.

Water bottles, pedometers and refreshments are provided to each participant.

We also offer participants the opportunity to do a health check too.

If you want to take part in this healthy and fun activity:

Contact:
Darren Miller (Men's Health Coordinator) 4056 0100
Colin Costello (Men's Health Worker) 40 56 0100

DO YOU NEED A DRIVER LICENCE?

Licensing Mob
Visiting Yarrabah
Wed 7th & Thu 8th September 2011
at Yarrabah Training Room 5 Noble Drive

BRING ALL THE ID YOU HAVE
Birth Certificate, ID Card, Key Card, Medicare Card, Health/Pension Card, Bank Statement (MUST BE ORIGINALS)

Come and see us if you want a CAR, BUS, TRUCK or MOTORBIKE Licence or an 18+ card.
We can help you to get a learner licence, go for a driving test to get your P's or renew your licence

Government
INDIGENOUS DRIVER LICENSING UNIT - 1800 123 123

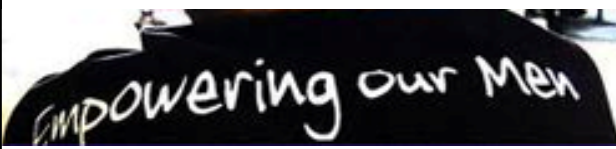
Dr Wenitong said the main causes of premature death included heart disease and strokes, accidental deaths including car accidents and murder, cancers and diabetes. "There is a of work being done in medicine about how we prevent things later in life like chronic heart diseases and this is related to some of the stress in our lives. "Most Indigenous people have lots more stress in their lives around a whole lot of things. "We know that about 30 percent of the prison population is our mob but we only make up 2.6 percent

government about how they might approach us a bit better so that when they are thinking about a new clinic or a program that they have the right workforce and the right sort of places. Dr Wenitong said there was lot men could do at a personal level to help overcome dysfunction in communities. "When I was at the last indigenous health conference over in Perth one of the old fellahs from Western Australia said when a woman is in distress in my community she goes to the women's shelter. "When an aboriginal



of the Australian population. "We really need to get a lot better about how we deliver good programs both in prisons and outside and stop people from going to jail in the first place. "When we started the national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health conferences we wanted more specific stuff for us, men's places that were separate and men working as health staff. "We have put together a national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health framework to put to

man is in distress he goes to jail. "That is the kind of thing we need to change." Dr Wenitong said from his perspective, as a health professional, Aboriginal health was not going to change until men's health issues were addressed. "We can build new clinics and lot of hospitals, we can do more domestic violence programs but until we start to address men's issues our communities are going to stay dysfunctional and they can't become functional unless the men are involved strongly and as leaders."



INDIGENOUS HEALTH FUNDING

The Australian Government is funding 38 community projects to encourage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to quit smoking, eat healthy, exercise more and better manage their own often chronic health issues.

The Minister for Indigenous Health, Warren Snowdon, said the program was a \$10 million investment in an innovative, grassroots program to encourage better health among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

"The projects include

providing fresh fruit and vegetables every day for local communities, promoting traditional health and healing, growing healthy food, encouraging homeless men to gather and cook bush tucker, and putting chronic disease messages to song. "Grants range from \$5,000 through to \$500,000 depending on the scale of the project and how many people it will reach, and the second round of grants will close on 30 September 2011." For information go to www.livelonger.health.gov.au

SURVIVAL DAY PLANNING MEETING



Coconut husking at Survival Day 2011

The committee of Survival Day or Yarrabah's Big Day Out welcomes members of the community who would like to be involved in the planning for next year's event.

There will be a meeting held at the Yarrabah Cultural Centre Menmuny museum at 10.30 am Wednesday 14 September 2011.

We welcome new fresh ideas to make the next event even more spectacular.

This can only happen if you take part in the planning. The agenda will be as follows:

- Debrief on the previous event.
- Select new committee.
- Sponsorship.
- Fund raising.
- Discuss new activities.
- Venue/site.
- General business.
- Date next meeting.
- Close of meeting.

Please contact Mala Neal at the Museum on 40569154 or mala.neal@yarrabah.qld.

NEW “user friendly” LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTORAL BILL

New legislation for the conduct and administration of local government elections has been introduced into the Queensland Parliament. The

new stand alone Bill will provide a legislative instrument that is user friendly for candidates and the community, and practitioner friendly to councils and electoral officers.

The Act will be a one stop shop for the conduct of local government elections,

consolidating the current local government electoral provisions from four legislative instruments into one, reducing the legislative burden on local governments.

The new Bill retains many elements of the original local government election legislation that stakeholders and the community believe to be vital elements of an efficient and transparent electoral framework. These elements include the direct election of mayors, the requirement that councillors resign to contest a seat in state or federal elections, the prohibition of dual candidacy and voting systems of a local government. A key feature of the new Bill is moving the responsibility for the conduct and administration of all local government elections to the Electoral Commission of Queensland. This gives the Electoral Commission of Queensland a mandate to conduct all local government elections and will create an independent, central point of coordination and administration to ensure community expectations of efficiency, transparency and integrity in electoral arrangements are met.



By YASC Chief Executive Officer, Leon Yeatman

With the Electoral Commission of Queensland conducting all aspects of all local government elections, returning officers will now be appointed by the Electoral Commission and will not be council chief executive officers except in exceptional circumstances.

This removes the role from chief executive officers which will allow council chief executive officers to focus on the day to day operations of council including the delivery of key services to the community

under the stewardship of councillors.

While the Bill maintains the best parts of current systems of electing local councils, it also adds more flexibility, transparency and integrity to the voting process.

Absent voters in a divided local government area may cast a vote outside their local government division, but within the local government area and prepolling will no longer require eligibility criteria to be met before a vote is issued at a booth.

Applying for a postal vote will also be more efficient with an additional day for voters to receive their ballot paper and vote, with the lodgement of applications moved from the Thursday to the Wednesday before the Saturday polling.

It is expected that the Bill will be debated in late August, early September. A copy of this Bill and explanatory notes are available at www.legislation.qld.gov.au.

RESTRICTED DRIVER LICENCE HELP FROM LEGAL AID

Queenslanders at risk of losing their driver licence and suffering subsequent hardship can access a free online guide explaining how to apply for a special hardship order or a restricted driver licence, also known as a work licence. Legal Aid Queensland

has produced the ‘Are you going to lose your licence?: A guide to help you apply for a work licence or special hardship order’ guide which outlines the eligibility criteria, application process and what to expect in court when you apply for a work licence or hardship order.

“Driver licence suspensions are some of the most common matters before the Queensland



courts,” Legal Aid Queensland CEO, Anthony Reilly, said. “In some instances a suspended driver licence can cause severe financial or personal hardship for a person or family if they need a driver licence for their job or to access vital services.

“In these hardship situations if a person meets the eligibility

criteria for either a work licence or special hardship order, they can apply to the court for one of these restricted driver licences which would permit them to drive under strict conditions. The ‘Are you going to lose your licence?’ guide can be downloaded from the Legal Aid web site: www.legalaid.qld.gov.au



Community Meeting Notice

Yarrabah Shire Council are conducting a Community meeting to discuss the development of a Community Plan for Yarrabah. All residents are invited to attend as this is the time to have your say of what should go into the Plan. Come along to the meeting and have your say.

When: 10 October 2011

Where: Rural Training Centre

Time: 10am to 12pm

If you like to be part of the planning process of your community's future, contact Peter Lenoy, Community Engagement Manager, Yarrabah Shire Council on 4056 9120.



Qualified Bricklayer Yarrabah
Vernon Stafford
0467 044 607 or 0424 838 712

Bindal Sharks All Blacks Indoor Netball Competition

SATURDAY 8TH OCTOBER, 2011
TIME: 6-11PM
Nomination: \$200 per team
Nominations Close: 26/9/2011

WOMEN'S ONLY
Must be 16 years

For More Information see the Website
Please Contact:
Tammie Morrison
Phone: 014 428078
Email: tammie@qld.gov.au

All games played at the Kirkwood Sports Centre, Kirwan



Recycling
Wednesdays
and
Fridays

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

EVENTS

September
4 – 11 Child Protection Week
7 Indigenous Literacy Day
10 World Suicide Prevention Day
16 – 18 Torres Strait Island Cultural Festival
18 – 24 Disability Action Week

BIRTHDAYS

September
11 Juan Murgha Jnr
15 Preston Andrews
15 Cossette Harris
27 Kaitlin Mossman (21st B'day)

EVENTS

October
1 World Vegetarian Day

Day
2 World Walk to Work Day
4 World Animal Day
5 World Habitat Day
12 International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction
16 World Food Day / National Water Week
17 International Day for the Eradication of Poverty
Long Weekend-NSW Annual Aboriginal Rugby League Knockout

BIRTHDAYS

October
23 Cyndell Keyes, Kristene Pearson, Jalaba Murgha



Communities for Children (C4C) Launches it's **FREE** Family Membership

When: 22nd September 2011

Where: Earlville Shopping Centre at the C4C Corridor Links Hub (opposite Terry White Pharmacy at the food court end)

Time: 11am – 2pm

Come along and join in the fun: face painting, balloons and giveaways



What is C4C Family Membership?

C4C Family Membership is an opportunity to connect with your community and to be kept informed on information that might be of interest to families. The information provided could include:

- Family friendly events
- Workshops for parents
- Services available for families

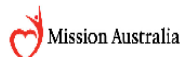
Who can become a member?

Membership is open to families with children 0-12 years old living in the Cairns region and including Yarrabah.

What are the benefits of becoming a member?

Some of the benefits of being a member of Community Connect:

- Community Connect quarterly newsletter full of all sorts of information and competitions
- Advance invitations to family events
- Invitation to free or low cost workshops for parents
- Information for free or low cost activities for children
- An opportunity to give your feedback on what is happening in your community and what you would like to happen in your community



Communities for Children
An Australian Government Initiative



Sat 17th Sept
Fogarty Park
Esplanade
10am - 10pm

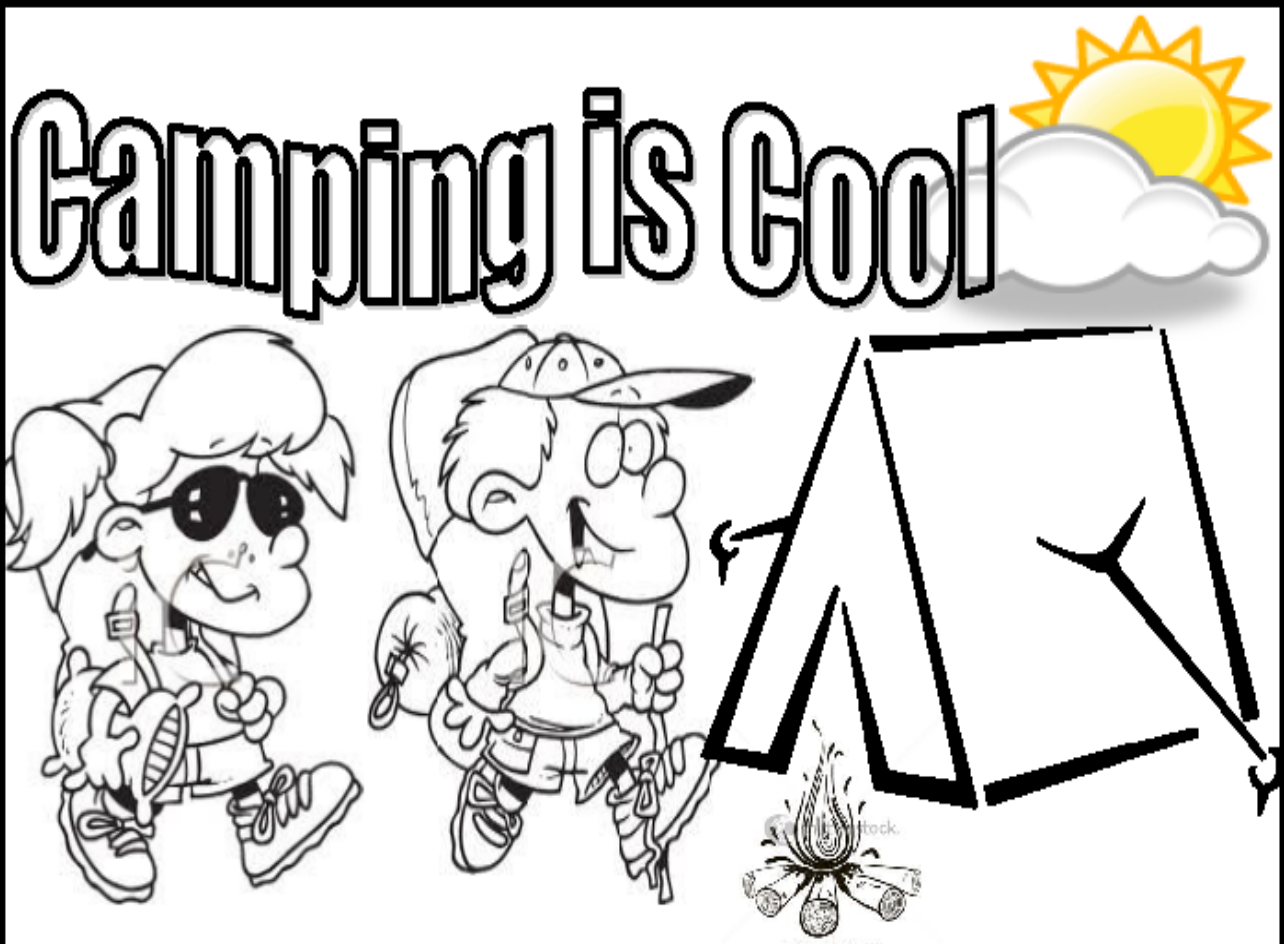
TROPICAL WAVE festival

Cultural Performances
International food
Community Stalls
Kids Workshops
Craft Demos

Finale Concert featuring **ZENITH**

This event is proudly presented by:

carma.org.au
Queensland Government
Española
OTA
parenting
CARMA



KEEP ACTIVE  STAY HEALTHY  HAPPY FAMILIES

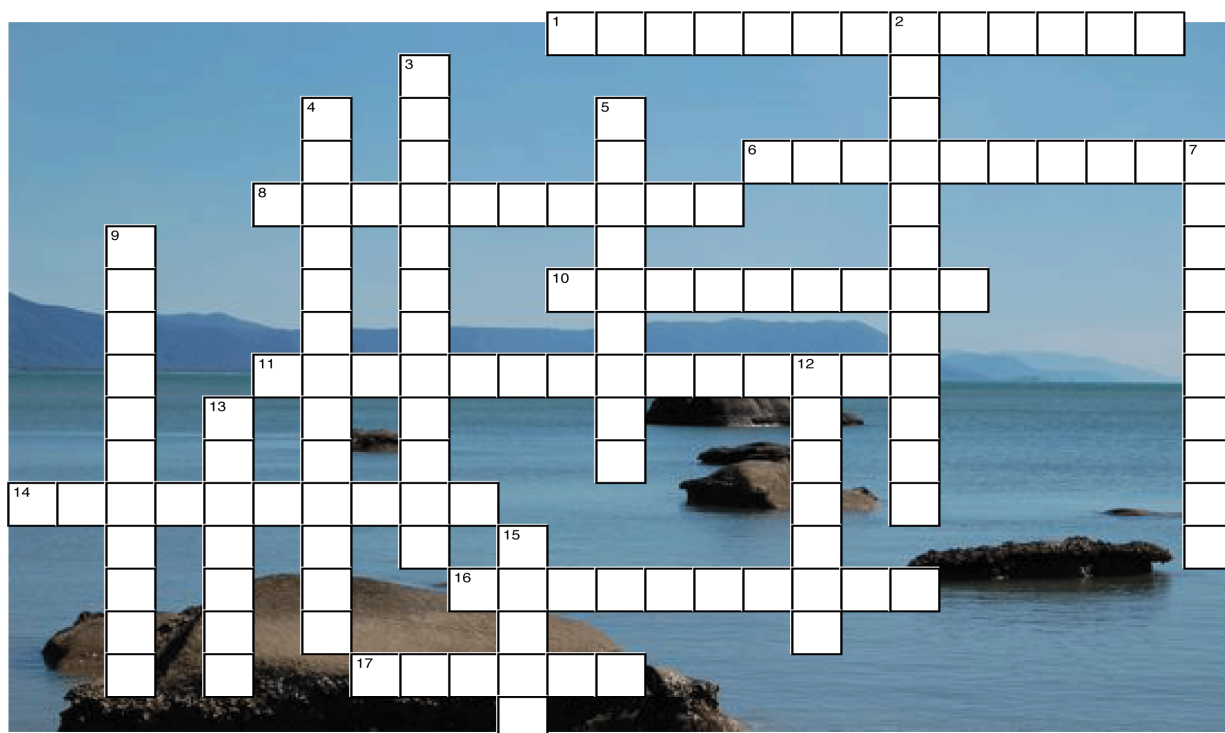
Name: _____

Address: _____

Age Group: **3—5** **6—8** **9—13** **14—16**

<p>Terms & Conditions 1. The promoter reserves the right, at any time, to verify the validity of the claims and entrants (including an entrant's identity, age and place of residence) and to disqualify any entrant who submits an entry that is not in accordance with these Terms and Conditions or who tampers with the entry process. Failure by the Promoter to enforce any of its rights at any stage does not constitute a waiver of those rights. Errors and omissions will be accepted at the Promoter's discretion. 2. Unless otherwise indicated, Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council promotion commences on 12/09/11. Unless otherwise indicated, mail entries close last mail received on 10/10/11. 3. The Promoter may conduct further draws as are necessary. In order to distribute any prizes unclaimed by that date subject however to any written directions from any regulatory authority. 4. The winners of prizes in the unclaimed prize draw will be published in Volume 149 of this newsletter. 5. Prizes, or any unused portion of a prize, are not transferable or exchangeable and cannot be</p>	<p>taken as cash unless otherwise stipulated. 6. If any prize (or part of any prize) is unavailable, the Promoter, in its discretion, reserves the right to substitute the prize (or that part of the prize) with a prize to the equal value and/or specification, subject to any written directions from a regulatory authority. 7. Entrants under 16 years old must have parental/guardian approval to enter and further, the parent/guardian of the entrant must read and consent to all terms and conditions. Parents/guardians may be required by the Promoter to enter into a further agreement as evidence of consent to this Promotion. 8. Entrants consent to the Promoter using the entrant's name, likeness, image and/or voice in the event they are a winner (including photography, film and/or recording of the same) in any media for an unlimited period of time without remuneration for the purpose of promoting this competition (including any outcome). And promoting any products manufactured, distributed and/or supplied by the promoter. 9. All entries become the property of the Promoter. The collection, use and disclosure of personal information</p>	<p>provided in connection with this competition is governed by the Privacy Notice. Privacy Notice This issue of the Yarrabah Newsletter may contain offers, competitions or surveys which require you to provide information about yourself if you choose to enter or take part in them. If you provide information about yourself to Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council, YASC will use this information to provide you with the products or services you have requested, and may supply your information to contractors that help YASC to do this. YASC will also use your information to inform you of other publications, products, services & events. Unless you tell us not to, we may give your information to other organisations that may use it to inform you about other products, services or events or to give to other organisations that may use it for this purpose.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Rules</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The competition is open to all school aged children between the ages of 3-16 2. The competition is open from Monday 12th September 2011 & closed on Monday 10th October 2011 3. Entries can either be mailed or handed in to the YASC <u>Mailing address:</u> "Attention Kris" 56 Sawmill Rd, Yarrabah 4. One winner will be selected from each age group & will win a \$50 worth of school stationary.
--	--	---	---

FAMOUS ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE
Entertainment & Media Industry



Across

1. Indigenous female singer from Darwin?
6. Indigenous TV host/chef?
8. Famous Indigenous comedian/actor?
10. David Gulpilil hometown?
11. Well known Indigenous comedian?
14. SBS female Indigenous reporter?
16. Well known Indigenous band from Arnhem Land?
17. Brandon Walters character name in the film Australia?

Down

2. Mary G real name?
3. Indigenous female artist sang 'My Island Home'?
4. Indigenous actor in City Homicide?
5. Jamie Gulpilil acted in which movie?
7. Well known female singer and and late wife of Archie Roach?
9. Famous Indigenous artist who sang 'Took The Children Away'?
12. Debra Mailman character name in Bran Nu dae?
13. Two piece girl group hit single 'Stop Calling Me'?
15. Name of one of the girls from Rabbit Proof Fence?

WINNER OF THE COLOURING COMPETITION



Congratulations to Delanne Ambrym, Tymika Pearson and Kalijah Yeatman.

Pictured: Simon Cotton, Principle, Delanne Ambrym

July Crossword Answers—Famous Indigenous Sports Person.

Across: 1. Percy Hobson 3. Arthur Beetson 10. Yvonne Goolagong 12. Nathan Jawai 13. Benn Har-radine 14. Patrick Mills 15. Anthony Mundine. Down: 1. Paul Rowe 2. Kathy Freeman 4. Tony Mundine 5. Bianca Franklin 6. Gina Vahenare 7. Kyle Vanderkuyp 8. Bodela Cruz 9. Mark Ella 11. Nova Peris

Bible Reading—A message from Edom

Peace here means more than the absence of conflict. It is contentment, fulfilment and security. Their home territory was Mount Seir. Mountains, symbols of strength and power, represented the pride of the people. Who thought they could get away from evil. Their desire for revenge turned against them. Edom received the punishment it was as nasty to give out. God has a way of allowing our treatment of others to boomerang on us. So be careful in your judgement of others. (Matthew 7:1)

‘As one we are united, divided we fall, together we face the future’ Cr. Anthony Fourmile

TRAWL NET DAMAGE

Fishing nets as wide as eight kilometres and trawling of the sea floor are devastating slow growing marine life and the damage to Australia's oceans is undermining a Federal Government commitment to safeguard critical breeding and feeding areas.

A new report has found that seafloor, or demersal, fishing and gill netting is "indiscriminate" in its impact on marine life. Prawn trawling, for example, results in the capture of 500 fish and shark species as bycatch.

The new report by environment consultancy J Diversity has been released as the trawling industry increases pressure on Federal Environment Minister, Tony Burke, to scale back proposed new marine reserves and allow destructive seafloor trawling and gill netting into areas critical for marine life.

"Trawling is one of most indiscriminate fishing methods. "It produces only 2 percent of wild fish harvest but up to one third of its bycatch," Dr Stuart Blanch, Director of the Environment Centre of the NT said. The report



demonstrates that seafloor trawling is as destructive as the clear felling of forests on land. "Imagine knocking down a forest to catch the animals that live there, this is what seafloor trawling does." "This trawling along with offshore gillnets which are up to 8km long walls of death hanging in the ocean are devastating to our marine life," said Tim Nicol of the Conservation Council Gavan McFadzean from The Wilderness Society called on the Federal Environment Minister to rule out any watering

down of proposal for new marine sanctuaries to benefit seafloor trawling or gill net fishing. "If the Minister allows these death nets into important feeding and breeding areas, he would undermine the government's election commitment to improve protection of our marine life," he said. The

"*Conservation Perspective On Demersal Fishing In Australia*" report claims the Northern Prawn Fishery is killing at least 5 tonnes of marine life as bycatch for every tonne of prawns that goes to market. The report

MYRTLE RUST THREAT



Myrtle rust has been found in far north Queensland

A serious fungal disease that affects Australian native plants like lilly pilly, bottle brush, tea tree and eucalypt has been found in far north Queensland.

Myrtle rust can not be eradicated and is expected to spread in Queensland because it produces large numbers of spores that are easily spread by wind, human activity and animals.

The disease attacks young, soft, actively growing leaves, shoot tips and young stems, as well as fruits and flower parts of susceptible plants. The first signs of rust infection are tiny raised spots or pustules.

After a few days, the pustules erupt into fluffy-looking, egg-yolk yellow spores. The disease can cause deformed leaves, heavy defoliation of branches, dieback, stunted growth and even plant death. The rust poses no

threat to human or animal health. Some hosts are affected more severely than others. As myrtle rust has only recently been detected in Australia, the long-term effect on plants under Australian conditions is not yet known.

Some plant species may display symptoms that could be confused with myrtle rust. Plants commonly mistaken as being infected with the rust include frangipanis, palms wattles, grevilleas, banksias and orchids.

Myrtle rust can spread rapidly because it produces large numbers of small spores that can be dispersed over long distances by wind.

Myrtle rust is likely to infect plants in wet and humid conditions and rust pustules can mature to release spores in as little as 10-12 days.

Spores can survive for up to 3 months in

HEALTH PROMOTION AND PREVENTION OPPORTUNITIES

Queensland Health recognises that staff in rural and remote areas work in complex cultural, economic and social context where there is a considerable excess burden of disease, particularly from chronic diseases.

Through directions from the National Preventative Health Taskforce, The Queensland Governments *Toward Q2: Tomorrow's Queensland* and the Council of Australian Government commitment to *Closing the Gap* there is an ongoing requirement for more staff to deliver health promotion and prevention strategies to address the burden of excess and preventable disease particularly in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. Therefore, the need for effective and sustained health promotion training for positions responsible for the planning, implementing and evaluating of initiatives designed to prevent chronic

disease was identified. The Graduate Diploma in Indigenous Health Promotion has been offered in Sydney since 1998, with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from across the country attending teaching blocks in Sydney. Through a partnership formed between Tropical Regional Services and the University of Sydney the course was successfully delivered off campus in the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Health Service District in 2006/2007, in the Mount Isa Health Service District in 2008/2009 and on campus in Sydney in 2010 & 2011. Tropical Regional Health Services are offering course fee scholarships for selected staff for 2012. The course fee scholarships are worth approximately \$4,500 per student. Interested staff and their line managers must complete the necessary Expression of Interest Form and submit to tammy_allen@health.qld.gov.au by 7 October 2011 indicating interest in attending the course delivered in Sydney in 2012. There is a possibility that this course may alternatively be delivered in north Queensland. The graduate degree is a one-year, full-time course offered in block-release mode. It includes one 10 day workshop and five one-week intensive workshops and extensive self-directed learning carried out by the students in their own communities. The assignments are



all based on the students' own working environments and are intended to build on their knowledge, skills and practice in health promotion, to enable them to apply these directly in their communities. The course is made up of six modules: community profile and setting priorities, health promotion program planning, strategies for health promotion, communication: a tool for promoting health, research and evaluation and the final project. At the end of the course students complete a final project drawing together their learning

across the year. They hand this in approximately six weeks after the completion of the final intensive workshop. The course was designed by and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health professionals and is delivered by Indigenous and non-Indigenous faculty, including graduates of the course. Students will be required to submit regular assignments

to demonstrate knowledge and skills following each of the teaching blocks. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health staff are encouraged to apply who can demonstrate a benefit from further studies in health promotion and who complete the necessary Expression of Interest requirements, including the University of Sydney requirements. Staff can be employees of Queensland Health and other Government and Non-Government organisations and they must be currently working in the north Queensland region including the Torres Strait Islands). Course fees for the Graduate Diploma in Indigenous Health Promotion are approximately \$4,500 for one year's full-time enrolment per student. Travel, accommodation and a travel allowance will be organised by the University of Sydney and is provided at no cost to the student.

Further information:
Tammy Allen
Cairns Public Health Unit
Tropical Regional Health Services, Cairns
Phone: 07 4226 5524
Email: tammy_allen@health.qld.gov.au

CDRL MEDAL CONTENDERS**UNDER 18**

COLERIDGE DABAH YARRABAH
EATHAN HOFFEMAN MOSSMAN PORT
PHIL NONA IVANHOES
DEAN SOLEY ATHERTON

RESERVES

SEPTIMUS AMBRUM YARRABAH
STARRET TOMARRA INNISFAIL
JAKE PRICE IVANHOES
KYLE MURRAY INNISFAIL

A GRADE

VICTOR AKIBA ATHERTON
DAVE EDWARDS MAREEBA
BEN FITZPATRICK BROTHERS
DANE FURTHY IVANHOES
ROBBIE HARREN INNISFAIL
MADDY OOSEN SUBURBS
CHRIS RIESEN BROTHERS
STEVE SINGELTON KANGAROOS
JASON NICOLOU SUBURBS
FILI SOFA INNISFAIL

RUGBY CAREER FOR YARRABAH STUDENT

Player of the tournament, Jaidyn Yeatman (left) at the Queensland Open Schools carnival.

A Yarrabah Rugby player is still in contention for national selection despite missing a place in the Under 18 Australian squad named last month. Jaidyn Yeatman, 17, will still be in contention for national under 18 selection next year with a rugby career proceeding big time. The Townsville Cathedral School student and his family have been in talks with Queensland Rugby Union about his playing future while studying at a south east Queensland university. Jaidyn's parents Bevan and Melanie Walsh, have been disusing his playing future with QRU Indigenous recruiter, Shane Drahm. 'We've had phone calls from the former Queensland Reds player and he's been mapping out a pretty exciting future for Jaidyn after he was

identified as a talented player," Bevan said. "As well as attending university he'll have opportunities at a higher level of competition so he is still in contention for national selection next year."

Rugby has another consolation prize for the promising player. He is one of 32 Rugby Union players who will spend time this month in England, Ireland, Scotland and the Isle of Man. They will compete in seven matches against local UK high schools "The purpose of this tour is to provide an opportunity for students to tour overseas and play quality rugby in a different part of the world," Director of Sport for The Cathedral School, Mr John Rauch said. "It is also a reward to the students for two years of effort and contribution to the school."

All Blacks Rugby League Carnival

24-25 September 2011 - Alley Park Gordonvale

yatteemarun

● QRL Sanctioned.

● Football weekend for those not travelling to the Gold Coast carnival.

● Food and bar facilities.

**Nominations
for mens and
womens teams
\$1150 per team**

For Nomination Forms

olivertribe@bigpond.com.au

Further information

Kay 0408 876 770

Sandra 0459 552 884

Mark 0431 331 196

CAIRNS DISTRICT RUGBY LEAGUE FINALS SERIES 2011

CDRL Gold Medal Dinner-Friday, 16 September 2011: *Brothers Leagues Club, 7pm.*

Grand Final-Sunday, 18 September 2011, *Gates Open: 9am:* Under 16's: (Between winners of CDJRL and EJRL) 10.00am; C Grade: 11.30am; Under 18's: 2.30pm; Reserve A Grade: 4.00pm; A Grade: 5.30pm