



# Wujal Community Meeting



## Wujal Kaban September 2022

A community meeting was held on Wednesday August 17 to discuss matters concerning the community. Mayor Bradley Creek opened the meeting with CEO Steve Wilton. Steve thanked the community for their support over the past three years while he was CEO and wished everyone well.

Matters discussed were youth crime and community safety. The police would like all parents and caregivers to ensure that children are home at a reasonable hour and not roaming the streets. Police would like the community to rally together to ensure that our children are not getting into any mischief because once the Police are involved it is too late and action must be taken in accordance with the law. Prevention of Police involvement is the best solution for everyone.

Council updated the community on the state of Council's finances. The financial controllers are no longer in charge of finance and it is now back in Council's hands. Council are still required to repay the loan to the current value of \$3.5 million. This means that all spending will still need to follow strict protocols, but the future is looking brighter.

The sub-division for the old dump site is coming along with more housing anticipated in the coming future. The housing will be built by Council but will be social housing, therefore managed by the Department of Housing as per their tenancy regulations and protocols. Council will have no jurisdiction over the tenancy arrangements.

Due to cost of living and material expenses the plug-in that are being constructed are slightly behind schedule. Council are lobbying to get additional funding to compensate for the unexpected increases. The drainage project from the road past the sewerage pump station has been completed and Council are looking at commencing the concreting of the drainage system from the kindy all the way through.

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Council are looking to work with Community Enterprise Queensland (CEQ) to provide essential goods to the community. Community Enterprise Queensland is a not-for-profit organisation committed to providing essential goods and services to communities in the Torres Strait,



Never miss an issue!! If you would like the monthly Wujal Kaban sent directly to your email address come and see Kylie at the IKC or email [kylie@wujal.qld.gov.au](mailto:kylie@wujal.qld.gov.au)



# Wujal Community Meeting

Northern Peninsula Area (NPA) and remote Aboriginal communities.

CEQ are responsible for the operation of 28 retail stores throughout these remote areas, providing access to quality fresh food, groceries and essential services like fuel, gas and ATM facilities.

CEQ is indigenous run and operate ISIS supermarkets, ABIS supermarkets, Mitre 10, Col Jones Department Store (offering household appliances, furniture, foot ware, sporting and clothing) and Mona's Bazaar (clothing, gifts and culture).

Discussions around local employment were raised with employers stating that more job vacancies are becoming available and it is a good time to remember that you are required to work your stated hours and show up to work everyday to retain your employment. Of course, you are entitled to sick and annual leave but you must follow the protocols and policies of your employer and either apply for leave, notify manager when you are sick and provide a doctors certificate if you are off sick for two or more consecutive days. It is essential that jobs are available and kept by local people and pride is taken in community and self to sustain local employment and career development.

Social housing was put on the table. Unfortunately, at this community meeting there were no managers present from the Department of Housing to answer the community's questions. Council have no jurisdiction over tenancy and housing and cannot influence housing preferences or availability. Council only assist in maintaining the houses through an agreement with the Department of Housing. This is where you use the blue phone and log a request and the Department of Housing raise a job request and purchase order with Council to complete the works on their behalf.

**Council have no authority over housing and tenancy issues. All issues surrounding tenancy arrangements must be taken up with the Department of Housing and not Council.**

We hope to have someone from the Department of Housing come in and address any community issues in the future.

Pama Futures and DATSIP informed the community about the new Local Decision-Making Body. The aim of the LSMB is to have a direct community voice to our Ministerial Champions and express what would work for our community as opposed to the current structure of one-size fits all.



For all housing enquires please call the Department of Housing on 1300 300 734, use the blue phone at the RTC centre or complete an online enquiry form on the Departments website [www.qld.gov.au/housing](http://www.qld.gov.au/housing)

# Cairns Indigenous Art Fair 2022



The art centre artists and staff went to Cairns for CIAF. We left on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> to be at the artists welcome at Northsite Contemporary Arts. This was also opening night for the artists exhibition at Northsite "Nyungu Bubu: stories from our Country". Nine artists were selected for this exhibition.

In May 2022, Edwina Circuit, art consultant, worked with the artist creating 13 new works for the exhibition CIAF "Masters of Country" experimenting with a new colour palette using medium earth and dry pigments on linen.

CIAF was on the Wednesday night, bringing Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander artists, designers and performers from right across Queensland to tropical Cairns to celebrate. It was also the award night for artists and art centres. Sonya Creek won \$5,000 for the emerging artists award for her beautiful painting of "Mili & Yunga". By the time the awards were over, we had sold all but one painting from the art fair. The next morning, we had sold out.

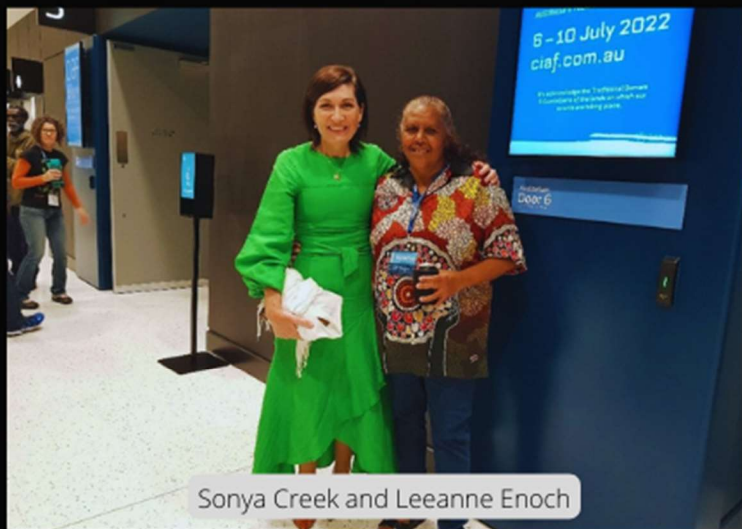
No time to rest, on Thursday morning, the artists had another exhibition opening at the Cairns Courthouse Gallery for the CIAF Fashion Story Exhibition Opening where the artists exhibited their hand painted kaftans and robes. This was a stunning detail of Queensland First Peoples' fashion design and wearable art displayed in large format photography, screen adaptation, garment presentation, and body adornment.

Thursday afternoon had the artists back at Northsite Contemporary Arts for the artists talk. Betty Sykes, Sonya Creek, Josie Olbar and Anne Nunn talked about their artworks and why it is so important to them. This even was also filmed and will be available on [northsite.org.au](http://northsite.org.au).

As Bana Yirriji was only involved in the art fair and did not have a market stall, this gave the artists and staff an opportunity to enjoy the rest of CIAF events and check out other exhibitions.



Great place to acquire some momentos or artwork from local Aboriginal artisans. After years of not quite finding the right piece, we finally got a painting we love ... and a wonderful story to go with it. Well worth the time, even if you don't buy. And it's right on the road to Wajul Wajul Falls. – Google Review John Stephens



Sonya Creek and Leeanne Enoch



Lila Creek with her kaftans

# CIAF 2022



Lila Creek's Masters of Country



Betty Sykes "Nyungy Bub: Stories from our Country"



Anne Nunn "Nyungy Bub: Stories from our Country"



"Nyungy Bub: Stories from our Country"

Wujal Wujal

Take a Kid

FISHING COMP

2022



# Fishing Comp

Take a kid Fishing competition is being held Sunday 18th September from 8am to Monday 19th September to 12 noon.

Council, Justice Group and Jabalbina Rangers have kindly offered to transport those families and elders that don't have vehicles to the boat ramp or heads. Departure times from in the Community will be advertised closer to the date.

There will be water, fruit and some food available to eat at the heads, please bring anything you would like to eat and we can also prepare and bake in the coals any fish that have been caught by the kids.

There will be a few boats in the water to take kids fishing in the River or on the Reef. For Safety purposes boats will be required to have the appropriate boat safety gear, especially life jackets, all kids that want to fish off a boat must be boat aware and must listen to the skipper.

Fish must be caught in the fishing grounds which include the Bloomfield River, Plantation Creek, surrounding reefs South to Cowie and North to the Hope Islands.

There must be an adult and a child per entry. The adult may be father, mother, uncle, Aunt, grandparent or adult brother or sister.

There will be two Fish measuring/photo stations, one at the boat ramp and one at the river mouth (heads). They will be open from 9am to 6pm Sunday 18th September and open again 9am to 12 noon Monday 19th September 2022.

Presentations will take place at the Community Hall on Monday afternoon from 4pm. There will be prizes for biggest fish (no category list), 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place, different age groups, mystery weight, lucky draws (including parents and elders).

Registration forms must be completed by Friday evening at the PCYC blue light disco. Registration forms can be found at the Wujal Police Station, Wujal Justice Office or the IKC.



"You will never look back on life and think, 'I spent too much time with my kids.'" -  
Unknown





# YINDILI JNR FOOTBALL COMP

**WUJAL WUJAL OVAL**





ICAN have been continuing their bi-monthly visits to Wujal and are pleased to announce the following news from the #SaveSorryBusiness (ACBF/YOUPLA) Campaign: The Federal Government have just announced it will pay funeral costs if a loved one passes as long as they were still paying ACBF/YOUPLA up to April 2020. What this means is that if you have a family member who has passed away and had an active policy with ACBF/YOUPLA, their funeral costs may be covered under the government's new program.

This support will be available until 30 November 2023. We will send through details and updates about making a claim as soon as we get them.

This is welcome news, but it is only a first step. We continue to fight to get compensation for everyone impacted by this disaster.

In other news, our recent visit brought Sam and Jake from Basic Rights Queensland to Wujal. Basic Rights Queensland are an advocacy service that help people out with Centrelink problems, in particular those struggling to move onto the disability support pension. They were able to speak with a lot of people while in town, but if you missed them please call ICAN and we can put you in touch.

ICAN will be heading up to Wujal again in from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September, so if you have any suggestions or feedback about what we can do to better support the community please call 1800 369 878 or call our financial counsellor Zack Wildy directly on 0438 661 720.

The Indigenous Consumer Assistance Network (ICAN) provides consumer education, advocacy and financial counselling services to Indigenous consumers across the nation.

ICAN financial counsellors have extensive knowledge in:

- Consumer Credit Law
- Debt enforcement practices
- Bankruptcy regime
- Industry hardship policies
- Government concession frameworks



The Youpla Group, also called the Aboriginal Community Benefit Fund, collapsed earlier this year.

The Australian Government has started the Youpla Group Funeral Benefits Program to help the families of fund members affected by the collapse.

This will help the families of fund members' conduct Sorry Business with dignity.

# Bits and Bobs



## DISCO PARTY

Come dance like nobody's watching. The Wujal Police will be holding a Blue Light Disco at the Wujal Hall on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September starting at 6pm. There will be food available at the venue. This will also be the last chance to complete your fishing comp registration forms.

## Hopevale Rodeo

The Hopevale Bronc and Bull Ride will be held Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September. Gates Open at 2pm at the MPC Oval with the 1<sup>st</sup> buckout at 3:30pm. The rodeo will be bringing back the tiny tots and rodeo best dressed. There will be junior, novice, saddle bronc, bushman bronc and open classes.

Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 high school students and aged pensioners will be free. Food and drinks will be available for purchase.

### Indigenous Drivers Licensing Unit

The Indigenous Drivers Licensing Unit will be in Wujal from Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October until Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October at the Council Training Rooms behind the My Pathways Office from 8:30 am to 4:00pm. They will be conducting license testing, both written and practical, and all other licensing services.


Learners licensing testing will start at 10:00am daily for the duration of their visit.

**It is now a requirement that the Hazard Perception Test is completed before doing a driving test. For more information visit [www.qld.gov.au/hazardperceptiontest](http://www.qld.gov.au/hazardperceptiontest)**

**Applicants must provide a road worthy, registered vehicle for their driving test as IDLU do not provide a vehicle.**

No cash payments will be accepted, EFTPOS only and please bring Original ID with you. Copies will not be accepted.

For more information call 1800 130 886



School holiday will start from Friday afternoon of the 16<sup>th</sup> September with kids returning to school Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October for Term 4!!



# What is Diphtheria?

Diphtheria is a serious bacterial disease. The germ makes a poison that can make you very sick. People of all ages can get it. The best way to prevent Diphtheria is by getting a vaccine. The vaccine is safe. It can stop you getting sick and giving the disease to others.

## What are the symptoms of Diphtheria?

- Sore throat
- Hard to swallow
- Fever
- Change in voice

## Who should get the vaccine?

Diphtheria vaccine is a good idea for everyone. It is:

- One of your baby needles (at age 2, 4, 6, and 18 months and 4 years)
- For kids at school (between 10-15 years)
- For pregnant women (ideally in their third trimester)
- For anyone aged over 50 who has not had one for a long time

## Where can you get a Diphtheria vaccine?

Ask your local health centre. It is FREE for most people.

## How is the vaccine given?

It is part of a combined vaccine. This also protects you against other bad diseases like tetanus and whooping cough. It is given as a needle.

## Can the needle make you sick?

The Diphtheria vaccine is safe and can stop you getting really sick from the infection. There is a small chance of side effects with all vaccines. The most common side effects from the Diphtheria needle are: pain, redness, swelling or hardness where the needle went in. Talk to your doctor, nurse or health worker if you are worried.



# Bits and Bobs

A very happy Birthday to Bobby Ball who turned 77 on the 25<sup>th</sup> July. A surprise birthday lunch was held in his honour at the HACCCentre. Bob got to enjoy all his favourite dishes, especially Aunty Kathleen's soup fish. A big thank you to everyone who turned out to celebrate this legends birthday.

## Be Aware of What Our Children Are Watching Online



A warning has gone out for parents to be careful and monitor what their children are watching online. Huggy Wuggy is the latest character terrifying children. Huggy Wuggy can be found on Tik Tok, Youtube, Roblox etc and blue teddy bear with razor sharp death depicts offensive language, representation of alcohol use blood, stabbings and decapitations, attempted murder and the aftermath of bloody car crashes. The teddy tells kids to kill their parents and "hug" people until they stop breathing. Kids have been found reenacting Huggy Wuggy.



thank you!

A big shout out to Julie from the Ayton Store for donating an awesome banana cake for the HACC clients. Thanks heaps.

## What's your Plan B?

Please if you are planning on drinking make sure you have a 'Sober Bob'. Remember not to hop in a car with someone who has been drinking and mates don't let mates drink and drive. I could come up with more slogans but the message is clear, please don't drink and drive. It costs lives, and nobody wants or needs that.



Don't forget that Steve and Jess from the Royal Flying Doctors Mental Health and Wellbeing Team are in community every second Tuesday. Please if you would like to discuss ANYTHING go hit them up. They are great listeners and can assist with a large range of problems. You might be surprised with how much it helps.

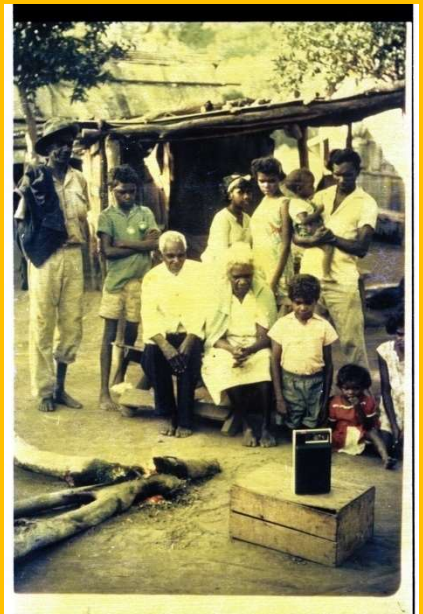


## Five Minutes With..... Lizzie Olbar

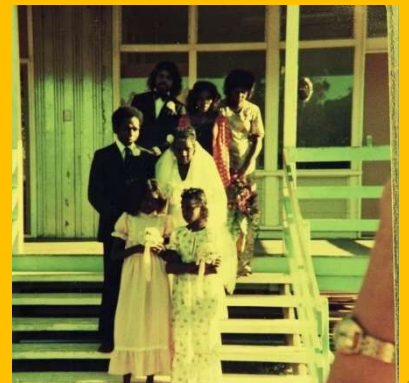
<b>NAME AND AGE</b>	Lizzie Olbar 62
<b>WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE THING TO DO IN WUJAL?</b>	I like to go fishing
<b>WHAT IS YOUR BIGGEST ACHIEVEMENT TO DATE – PERSONAL OR PROFESSIONAL?</b>	All the work we are doing on Country and with the rangers
<b>WHAT KIND OF CHALLENGES IS YOUR COMMUNITY FACING THESE DAYS?</b>	Every day challenges getting our land back and moving forward with our bubu
<b>IF YOU WERE FEATURED IN THE LOCAL NEWS, WHAT WOULD IT MOST LIKELY BE FOR?</b>	For my work on country and being there for my clan group
<b>WHO IS YOUR FAVOURITE CARTOON CHARACTER AND WHY?</b>	Micky Mouse I watched him when I was younger
<b>WHO IS YOUR NRL TEAM?</b>	Cowboys
<b>IF YOU WON LOTTO WHAT IS THE FIRST THING YOU WOULD DO/BUY?</b>	I'd buy everything and share it with my family.

### PICTURES OF WUJAL HISTORY

Listening to the radio down at Ayton (Harry Shipton, Roderick Nunn, Harry and Dolly Sykes, Marie Shipton, Carol Nunn, Walker Sykes with baby Clive Sykes, Normal Tayley, Cindy Tayley)



Lindsay and Janet Wallace wedding



# September Community Calendar

2022

SEPTEMBER

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6  Royal Flying Doctor Service	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Ging Ging Playgroup	15	16 Blue light disco Last day of school term	17	18 Take a kid fishing comp
19 Take a kid fishing	20  Royal Flying Doctor Service	21	22 Public holiday in memory of the Queen	23	24 Hopevale Rodeo	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4 Back to school	NOTES:				