

# PYRAMID VIEWS

CELEBRATING AND CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY



*"More about stories, less about news"*

**FREE**

## PYRAMID RACE POWERS ON



Max McDonald- Photo by Jon Westaway

The Great Pyramid Race committee can be proud of delivering another smooth and successful event on August 2nd, with everything running like a well-oiled machine. Glowing feedback from competitors, spectators and volunteers reflected the professionalism and spirit of an event that continues to go from strength to strength.

First held in 1959, the Great Pyramid Race has become a cornerstone of the Gordonvale calendar, attracting athletes and spectators from across the country. This year's event enjoyed perfect running conditions, with cooler temperatures and a dry track making for a safe race.

Billy Curtis, a macadamia farmer from the Sunshine Coast, claimed first place overall in the full Pyramid Race with a time of 1:23:26. The men's race record of 1:15:34, set in 2007 by Neil Labinsky, still stands.

In the women's division, Sydney-based podiatrist Rebecca Gibbs took out the top spot with a time of 1:47:13. The long-standing women's record, held by Cairns local Anita Appleby since 1997, remains unbeaten.

Full Pyramid Race Results

Men – Overall

1. Billy Curtis – 1:23:26
2. Joshua Chugg – 1:25:59
3. Matthew Romano – 1:30:07

(continued page 2)



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## PYRAMID RACE POWERS ON (CONT.)

### Women – Overall

1. Rebecca Gibbs – 1:47:13
2. Ella Appleby – 1:48:12
3. Rebecca Elliott – 1:54:20

Special recognition goes to Max McDonald, who delivered an impressive performance by finishing fourth in the Full Pyramid Race, then going on to win first place in the Half Pyramid Race shortly afterward.

The day wasn't just about elite runners. Other events—such as the Half Pyramid, Race to the Base, 3km Race, 1800m Junior Dash, and the Charity Fun Run—were well entered and catered to all ages and abilities. As always, the Gordonvale Cottage Markets added to the festive atmosphere, drawing both locals and out-of-towners to Norman Park for a full day of fun and community celebration.

Some might wonder why non-competitive locals would enter a demanding mountain race like this. But for many, it's not about the leaderboard. It's about personal challenge, pride in finishing, and being part of a long-standing Gordonvale tradition. For some it's a bucket list goal, for others a way to support friends or celebrate fitness. Regardless of time or placing, every runner shares in the energy and spirit that makes this race special. We spoke with three local entrants—Katelyn O'Shea, Josh Reid and Cat Roach—to find out what inspired them to take on the Pyramid. Their stories capture the true heart of the event and highlight why the Great Pyramid Race continues to inspire runners of all levels.



Katelyn O'Shea with her children- Photo by Jon Westaway

### KATELYN O'SHEA

For Aloomba resident, Katelyn O'Shea, running the Great Pyramid Race wasn't just about competition—it was about fulfilling a childhood dream.

"Even as a kid, I wanted to run the Great Pyramid Race," she said. "It was Covid that really got me started. In 2020, I began running just to get out of the house, and I set a goal to do my first race in 2021."

Since then, the Pyramid has become a regular part of her training. Leading up to this year's event, she committed to running the full Pyramid once a week. But when race day arrived, a head cold added a tough new challenge.

"Running with a cold was definitely the hardest part today," she admitted. "But I just told myself to 'suck it up' and keep going." Despite not being in peak condition, Katelyn pushed through with determination, adjusting her goal from beating her personal best to simply finishing the race. And she did—with a little comic relief on the descent. "On the way down, I tripped on a rock," she laughed. "I'm sure the photographer caught it!"

For Katelyn, the true highlight came at the finish line. "It was such a great feeling, especially crossing it with my kids. I was relieved, but also really proud."

Describing the event as "awesome," Katelyn praised the supportive and encouraging atmosphere throughout the day. "Everyone was so nice—it felt like the whole community was behind you."

And she's already looking ahead. "I'll keep running the race until I can no longer run it," she said.

### JOSH REID

Josh Reid, once a familiar face in the classrooms of Gordonvale State School and now principal at Bartle Frere State School, returned to Gordonvale this year to take on

the iconic Great Pyramid Race.

A friend had signed up and kept encouraging him to do the same. Josh hadn't climbed the Pyramid in about three years, so he decided to give it a go on the Cairns Show holiday. The climb took longer than expected, and he realised he'd be cutting it close to finish the race within the official time limit. After a bit more friendly peer pressure, he finally signed up during race week—not entirely sure he'd finish but determined to try.



Josh Reid- Photo by Sandra Charlton

Gordonvale holds a special place in Josh's heart. He spent four years teaching locally and still remembers the incredible students and staff he worked with. The Pyramid Race had always been on his radar, but he'd never taken the plunge—until now. Being part of it felt like a meaningful way to reconnect with a community that helped shape his early teaching career.

It was his first time participating in an event like this, and he was genuinely impressed by the support out on the course. Fellow runners and volunteers were encouraging every step of the way, helping to make a demanding race much more enjoyable.

Josh's goal was simple: beat the four-hour cutoff. He knew it would be close but managed to finish 20 minutes under. Now, he says, he has a time to aim for if he decides to return next year.

Crossing the finish line was a mix of relief and pride, though most of his attention quickly turned to preventing his calves and quads from cramping. He was grateful to the kind volunteers who sat him under a sprinkler and kept him going with bananas and Gatorade.

The Pyramid Race is now proudly ticked off Josh's Far North Queensland bucket list.

### CAT ROACH

St Michael's school teacher Cat Roach returned to the Great Pyramid Race this year to beat her 2024 time. She succeeded, finishing two minutes faster on one of Queensland's toughest courses.

Cat first ran the race last year while preparing for her Kokoda Trail trek during the June–July school holidays. Regular training on Walsh's Pyramid had made her familiar with the track, and although she once doubted her ability to run the mountain, she decided to give it a go. This year, she returned stronger and more confident.



## PYRAMID RACE POWERS ON (CONT.)



Cat Roach - Photo by Jon Westaway

Though always active, Cat took up running seriously a few years ago. She enjoys the clarity it brings and recently completed the Cairns Half Marathon, which helped her build endurance for the Pyramid.

During her Kokoda trek, Cat was inspired by a group of women trail runners and now dreams of exploring more races in new places.

Her biggest challenge on the day was her own mindset. Seeing the strong field of competitors made her nervous, but once the race began, she trusted her training and focused on the run ahead.

Cat values the unique spirit of the Pyramid Race. While the course is demanding, the sense of community pushes everyone forward. Runners support one another, spectators cheer from the sidelines, and a genuine camaraderie fills the air.

One standout moment was seeing Max McDonald after completing the full race already ascending the track during the Half Pyramid before she'd even reached the bottom.

Cat stayed motivated with the mantra "completer, not competer," focusing on finishing strong rather than comparing herself to others.

A touching highlight came as she neared the finish: her children, Archie and Evie joined her for the final stretch, while her Prep students cheered her on with signs and balloons.

Cat already has her sights on next year—with a new time to beat.

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## STREETS AHEAD

*This column provides a background to the streets and infrastructure of Gordonvale and who or what they were named after*

Column compiled by Julie Amadio- Mulgrave Shire Historical Society

### Hoolihan Street

Hoolihan Street is in the new housing subdivision of Pyramid Creek Estate located off Maher Road Gordonvale. The street is named after the Hoolihan family who originally came from Ireland. Patrick Hoolihan, his wife Alice and their eight children arrived in Townsville to seek a better life. Two of Patrick and Alice's sons: Charles Joseph and Dalton James served in WW1, and both were awarded the 1914/15 Star, British War Medal, and Victory Medals.

Dalton married Margaret Elizabeth Green (always known as Cissie) in Cairns on 5th July 1903 and they had six children. Their second son, Harold Kevin (always known as Kevin) married Elsie Maude Stokes from Edmonton in 1931, and after moving to several different homes in Gordonvale, they finally settled in Bells Lane. Kevin (snr) had a job working in the bakery for Thomas Brothers in Gordonvale and then worked at the Mulgrave Mill as a labourer until his retirement.

They had four children: Elaine, Pam, Kevin Barry, and Harvey. All the children went to Gordonvale State School and Cairns High School. Kevin (jnr) developed a passion for golf after one of the teachers from the primary school introduced him to the sport. Hugh Bryce of Bryce's Department store in Gordonvale gave Kevin a set of old clubs and soon Kevin was winning trophies. Kevin no longer plays golf but is a life member of the Gordonvale Golf Club.

At sixteen, Kevin(jnr) started an electrical apprenticeship at Burnells Pty Ltd Cairns. After completing his apprenticeship in 1961 he got a job with Bill and June Winfield who at that stage had an electrical and appliance repairs section in the Bryces Store in Gordonvale.

In 1962 Kevin married Valda Napper from Aloomba and they had two children: Janelle and Greg. A few years later the Winfield's bought and set up their electrical business where Caffin8 Café is located today. In 1969 Winfield's decided to move their business to Cairns, so Kevin and Valda bought the business from them. They employed electricians John Faithfull and Ron Diprose and started Hoolihan's Electrical.

Kevin and Valda decided to move to a smaller shop space and rented the vacant Thomas Butchery and Bakery building on Norman Street. After renting for a while, they bought the building, demolished it and in 1979 the brand new Hoolihan's Electrical Business was operating. Kevin and Valda said the business flourished there for over forty years thanks to their wonderful staff members. During that time, they had Greg Hughes who finished off his apprenticeship with them and their son Greg who started his apprenticeship there.

In the office there was Rosemary Dall'alba, Sue Walk, Deborah Townson, Kay Walk, Valda Hoolihan and Pat Diprose. In 2006 they stopped the contracting section of the business and concentrated solely on the appliance repairs for all white goods.

The last day of trading was on 14th November 2019. Valda says she will never forget that day. They put on a morning tea which went on till 3:00pm! People from all over the district came to congratulate them, reminiscing, and thanking them for their contribution to Gordonvale over the years. Many bringing bakery goods to compliment the occasion.

Kevin and Valda are now both happily retired and still living in Gordonvale. Pictured from left are Kevin Hoolihan, his wife Valda, their daughter Janelle Simpson (nee Hoolihan), their son Greg Hoolihan, and grandson Myles Hoolihan.



## 100 YEARS AGO

Research by Sallyanne Powell for Mulgrave Shire Historical Society

Cairns Post Tues 1 Sept 1925

**Gordonvale Sale of Work.**  
The results of weeks of preparation and work were brought together on Saturday afternoon, when the supporters of the Gordonvale Presbyterian Church held their annual bazaar and sale of work in aid of the church funds in the Nelson Hall. Quite a band of willing workers were early on the scene of the various stalls. That all did good business was evident, for before night came all were sold out. As a result of the afternoon the funds of the church will be considerably increased.

The Western Champion (Barcaldine, Q)

Northern Notes & News Sat 26 Sept 1925

**The Gordonvale hospital appears at last to be in sight. Already the sum of £1326 has been sent to the Works Department at Brisbane, and the building is being prepared and cut out there ready for erection, and should be standing complete at Gordonvale by the end of the year. The committee hopes to make the amount up to £2000 by Christmas.**

Cairns Post Wed 2 Sept 1925

**Gordonvale Conditions.**  
The effect of the prolonged dry spell is being acutely felt by the local residents at Gordonvale. Water in the tanks is getting very low, and in many instances people have found it necessary to start carrying water. The river can be noticed getting lower every day, and getting very dirty. As usual with any long dry spell, the mugginess and dust become a constant source of annoyance to both private and business people alike. On many of the farms planting is being delayed till rain comes, while the young rat-tooning cane is not coming forward as quickly as is usual for this time of the season. With a continuance of the present warm days and chilly nights, it does not look too promising for early rains.

Cairns Post Tues 15 Sept 1925

**A Public Menace.**  
The traffic bridge which spans the Mulgrave River is certainly becoming a menace to public safety, and unless something is done, and done very soon, a serious accident will be the result. This bridge, which is on the main road to Rabiuda and all districts on that side of the river, has for months past, gradually been falling into a bad state. Many of the planks have rotted through, leaving holes large enough for a horse's foot to go through. As there are no lights on the bridge, and a big drop to the river below, it would pay the authorities to have this bridge repaired, and not wait till some serious accident occurs, and probably subsequent damages claimed.—Our Gordonvale correspondent.

Source: Trove National Library of Australia



## PYRAMID RACE POWERS ON - RACE DAY HELPERS



Woolworths representatives - Photo by Jon Westaway



Colleen Murray - Photo by Jon Westaway



Clive Murray and Pory Liukkonen - Photo by Jon Westaway



Gordonvale and Edmonton SES members - Photo by Jon Westaway

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Contact the Editor at

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to arrange this.

### Acknowledgement of Country

The Pyramid Views acknowledges the Yidinji peoples as the First Inhabitants and the Traditional Custodians of the lands, waters and culture where we live, learn, work and play. We pay our respects to Ancestors and Elders, past, present and emerging.

If you would like to advertise or contribute to a story please contact **Sandra Charlton** at [PyramidViews@bigpond.com](mailto:PyramidViews@bigpond.com) or PH: 0438 563 176 or Facebook Pyramid Views

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## Mayor's View With Amy Eden

Sharing the latest Council news, projects and highlights that make a difference for Gordonvale



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### WE ARE ALL AMBASSADORS

Posted to Facebook about giving blood recently and a fellow donor, a new Australian, replied he gives blood as a way of saying thank you to his new country for the opportunities it has given him. What an ambassador! The perfect example of why we put so much time and effort into every Citizenship Ceremony.

When the female winner of this year's Great Pyramid Race stated there was nothing like "the eastern peak of Wooroonoora National Park" for running where she came from. She immediately became an ambassador for our vision to be the leading destination for women's sport in Australia whilst highlighting our unique environment and natural assets to potential visitors.

Locals are our greatest ambassadors and this very community newspaper enabled locals to shine recently through sharing a post about Greenpatch. The memories flowed about swimming, playing, local school's pool and even being baptised in the Mulgrave. Many lamented what had been lost due to an ever-increasing population of crocodiles. Each of you became an ambassador, highlighting the issues to the powers that be. Safeguarding public access to fresh waterways whilst

protecting the wildlife living there is central to being ambassadors for the environment.

When the owner of 'Crush', Gordonvale's relatively new and innovative Espresso Bar and Art Gallery, got in touch to request assistance in saving the 'Fig Trees' under threat; he immediately became an ambassador of goodwill with a positive outcome achieved.

Our amazing council crews be it parks, maintenance or repairs are ambassadors every single day be it in delighting my nephew and niece with greatly appreciated patience at the thousand questions about their trucks or the gardens they are tending with care and love or just doing the day-to-day slog of keeping our town working.

We all have moments when we represent our community to the world whether we realise it or not.

So next time you're out and about – on the sporting field, behind the shop counter, lending a hand at an event or simply welcoming a visitor give yourself a pat on the back; remember you're a valued ambassador for our region.

I'd love to hear your stories of how you show it.

## IGA AND RED CROSS TEAM UP TO DELIVER CARE BAGS TO REMOTE COMMUNITIES



Jan Anderson, Rosalie Hawthorne (Cornetts IGA), Sandra Downing Photo provided by Gordonvale Red Cross

Cornetts IGA Gordonvale has generously donated toiletry bags to Jan Anderson of the Gordonvale Red Cross, supporting individuals in remote regions of Queensland. These thoughtfully assembled bags are filled with essential personal care items, as well as colouring books and pencils, offering both practical support and a touch of comfort.

The donations will be distributed by Domestic Violence Cairns and the Royal Flying Doctor Service in Cairns, with coordination and support from the Gordonvale Red Cross.

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## CYCLING FOR TINY LIVES: RIDE FOR ISABEL



Local Gordonvale cyclists with members of the Gordonvale Lions Club. Photo by Sandra Charlton

On August 10, up to forty cyclists participated in the 2025 Alive Pharmacy Warehouse Ride For Isabel, a charity cycling event winding through the scenic cane fields around Gordonvale. Organised by the Far North Queensland Hospital Foundation, the ride supports vital neonatal care at the Cairns Hospital Special Care Nursery.

The event began and ended at Norman Park, Gordonvale with cyclists grouped by pace and accompanied by escort vehicles for safety and support.

Riders chose between a 50km course to Giangurra (Second Beach), with a coastal morning tea stop, or a 100km route that extended through the backroads of Aloomba, offering a more challenging return loop. Both rides finished with a barbecue lunch provided by the Gordonvale Lions Club.

Just over \$12000 was raised from this year's event, directly benefiting premature and

sick newborns in Far North Queensland.

More than just a ride, the event honours the memory of Isabel Pitt, daughter of founder Curtis Pitt, who was stillborn in 2008. Since its beginning in 2010, the ride has raised awareness and funds for families affected by stillbirth and early pregnancy loss.

Special thanks to sponsors Alive Pharmacy Warehouse, Mr Wheels, Star 102.7 Cairns, and to the many volunteers who brought this event to life.

The link to donate is [www.rideforisabel.org.au](http://www.rideforisabel.org.au)

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Speaking of new skills, our final Come and Try Mindfulness Meditation for adults is on Thursday 11th September. Organised by Edmonton Library, and running from Hambleton House, these sessions are perfect for beginners. Everyone welcome at 9.30am, drop in and try something new that will boost your wellbeing and focus!

For our younger customers, our final Mindful Mornings sessions will run at Edmonton Library on the 9th and 23rd of September. With fun animal movements, gentle stretches, and simple breathing techniques, these sessions are perfect for families with children under five.

It is Babinda Harvest Festival time! Our Babinda Library is once again participating in the Best Dressed Shopfront Competition. This year's theme is "Babinda Goes Country," so our library will be dressing up in a 'Clancy of the Overflow' theme. There are a number of fun interactive

activities planned for the week including a Ukulele Jam by the Babinda Ukelele Group on Thursday 4th September, 3pm. Come and get your country on, and don't forget to vote for Babinda Library as Best Dressed Shopfront while you're there!

Our Tropical Gardening Circle continues at Earlville Library on the second Monday of each month at 1.30pm. Gardeners of all levels are invited to meet fellow gardeners to share knowledge and tips for gardening in the tropics. September's topic is soil health.

If you are looking for some Crime writing recommendations, check out the Sydney Crime Writers Festival Danger Award shortlist. Go to [www.badsydney.com](http://www.badsydney.com) and

click on the 'vote' button to see the list. Most of the listed books are available from Cairns Libraries in both book and eBook form, so you too can sample some of the best crime writing by new and bestselling authors. You can even cast your vote to be part of the People's Choice award, or just use the list to find your next best read!

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A man in a grey suit, white shirt, and grey hat, smiling and holding a small object.A woman in a pink dress with white floral patterns and a large floral headpiece, smiling.



## RUGBY LEAGUE CARNIVAL STRENGTHENS CULTURAL BONDS



Founder, Jason Joinbee and Aunty Janette Singleton. Photo provided by Gordonvale Indigenous Rugby League Carnival committee

The spirit of community, culture, and competition will be on full display in Gordonvale this October as Alley Park hosts the annual Indigenous Rugby League Carnival from the 17th to the 19th.

Now in its twelfth year, the carnival has grown into a major sporting and cultural event for the region, welcoming 24 open men's teams from across North Queensland. With a prize pool of \$50,000 up for grabs, the level of

talent and intensity on the field promises to be high, but the heart of the event remains rooted in connection, remembrance, and community healing.

The carnival began in 2013 with just five teams, created in honour of much-loved Southern Suburbs player George Ludwick-Singleton—affectionately known as “McFly”—who tragically lost his life to suicide. His legacy lives on in this event, which continues to raise awareness around mental health, particularly among Indigenous men.

More than just a competition, the carnival is a celebration of Indigenous culture and pride. Teams travel from across the Far North, bringing with them not just sporting skill but also powerful cultural representation. Spectators can expect three days of fast-paced footy, cultural connection, and family fun.

The event is smoke, drug, and alcohol free, ensuring a safe and welcoming space for families and young people. Locals and visitors alike are encouraged to come down and be part of a weekend that's about much more than footy.

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## WIENERT FAMILY REUNION CELEBRATES 140 YEARS IN AUSTRALIA



Viv Wienert (seated) with his family. Photo provided by Wienert family

Around 200 members of the extended Wienert family gathered at Wienert Park in Edmonton to celebrate their rich family heritage and mark 140 years since Peter and Antje (Wilhelmine) Wienert arrived in Australia.

Born in Holstein — a region that was part of Denmark at their birth and later became part of Germany — the couple migrated aboard the S.S. Dorunda in 1885, eventually settling in Cooktown. In 1906 they moved to a cane farm at Highleigh, east of Gordonvale, and by 1911, they had relocated to Fishery Falls, where their legacy continues to flourish.

The reunion brought together approximately 170 descendants and 30 “outlaws” (a good-natured term for partners used on the day). The event was filled with stories, laughter, and meaningful tributes. Speeches were given, and gifts were presented for various contributions.

Funds raised during the celebration will go toward placing headstones on three unmarked graves belonging to the original 16 Wienert children — two located in Cairns and one in Cooktown.

The oldest family member in attendance was 87-year-old Vivian “Viv” Wienert from Fishery Falls, who also had the honour of cutting the celebration cake, which read “140 Years in Australia.”

Attendees proudly wore colour-coded outfits representing their ancestor’s name — such as red for Rose and hot pink for Harry — creating a vibrant visual family tree. Guests also took home a range of commemorative items including the Wienert family history book, stubby coolers, keyrings, pens, and photo USBs capturing moments from the day.

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## LUKE SAUNDERS RECEIVES COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD



Terry James MP (Member for Mulgrave) presenting Community Service Award to Luke Saunders. Photo provided by Member for Mulgrave Office

Luke has been a dedicated member of the Southern Suburbs Rugby League Club for 22 years. He played football from 2013 to 2019 and was awarded Life Player status in 2013 after a decade of involvement with the club.

From 2016 to 2022, Luke served as Club President for the Southern Suburbs Seniors and also took on the role of A-grade coach during part of that time. He currently serves as Treasurer of the Southern Suburbs Seniors. In 2024, he was recognised with the Ron Ambrym Memorial Shield FNQRL Volunteer of the Year award.

Luke is known as the first to volunteer and the last to rest after a big game day. He is a familiar, friendly face within the club, and many players have turned to him for guidance and support both on and off the field. His unwavering dedication and leadership were instrumental in saving the club from near closure just a few years ago. He continues to give tirelessly to the club.

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## GORDONVALE TAKES OUT TOP AFL SCHOOL AWARD



Gordonvale Junior AFL players and coaches Photo provided by Gordonvale Suns

In a triumph of teamwork and community spirit, Gordonvale State School has been crowned the 2025 AFL North Queensland Primary School of the Year — and what a story it is.

Coming from a proud, close-knit town where everyone knows your name, Gordonvale showed the region what it means to punch above your weight. With 27 students representing the school, they may have been one of the smallest contingents, but they made the biggest impact in spirit, sportsmanship, and community pride.

This was a collaboration between the Gordonvale Suns Junior AFL Club and Gordonvale State School. The entire trip was made possible through school-led fundraising and generous support from the Suns, who donated funds and supplied the boys' and girls' jerseys.

Leading the charge was Mr Wesley Hull, whose dedication went far beyond the sidelines. He coached the teams but also played a huge role behind the scenes — planning training sessions, organising logistics, rallying support, and helping lead fundraising efforts to make the trip possible.

His commitment to the students and to growing AFL at the grassroots level has been tireless and deeply valued by players, parents, and the wider school community.

Alongside him, George Barnett, President of the Gordonvale Suns, stepped in to coach the boys' team on game day. Parents rallied too — offering transport, cheers, snacks, and unshakable encouragement.

And the result? A stunning win of the AFL North QLD Primary School of the Year award — a title based not just on athletic performance, but on school spirit, participation, teamwork, and commitment to growing AFL in the region- a massive moment for the kids of Gordonvale State School.

Now, all eyes are on the State Championships on the Sunshine Coast, where the team hopes to represent North Queensland with the same determination and pride.

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## GORDONVALE GOES TO THE MOVIES



Andre Scholz, Dane Hallam, Michael Hoare, Matt Hoare, James Ivor and Joel Godfrey. Photo by Nicole Holdsworth

Gordonvale's own James Ivor is putting the region on the cinematic map with his latest project, *Storm Bird* — a comedy-drama being filmed right here in the Far North.

NIDA-trained actor and director, James not only co-wrote the film but is also co-directing and starring in it. The production features a talented cast, including acclaimed Australian

stage actor Anthony Phelan, Canadian performer Serena van Sandalwood, and James himself in lead roles.

*Storm Bird* tells the story of three strangers, each on the brink of a life-changing moment, who are unexpectedly brought together for a weekend that alters the course of their lives.

Cameras have been rolling around Gordonvale in recent weeks, with filming taking place at the Gordonvale Cemetery, Goldsborough, Bramston Beach, St Michael's Church, Ross 'n Locke, and the familiar streets of Swan and Templeton. What makes this project even more special is its strong local connection, with James using a predominantly local cast and crew.

Planned for release in 2026, James hopes *Storm Bird* will premiere at an international film festival — an exciting prospect not only for the team behind the film but for the Gordonvale community, who've played a role in bringing it to life.

## GORDONVALE WOMEN SHINE AT INTERCLUB CHALLENGE



Overall winner, Glenda Thomas with Gordonvale women's captain, Sandy Caplick. Photo provided by Sandy Caplick

The FNQ Women's Interclub event brought colour, camaraderie, and competition to the beautiful Gordonvale Golf Club on Wednesday, 6 August.

With a 9am start, the course came alive with the energy of 60 enthusiastic players representing clubs from across Far North Queensland — including Atherton, Cairns,

El Arish, Half Moon Bay, Mirage, Mossman, and Palmer Sea Reef.

It was a fantastic day of women's golf, with great prizes on offer, spirited interclub rivalry, and a strong show of community support. The weather held up beautifully, providing the perfect backdrop for a day of fun and fierce competition.

The standout performance of the day came from Glenda Thomas of Gordonvale, who was crowned Overall Winner with 44 points. Glenda also took home the Rose Heywood Memorial Trophy, a special honour in the women's golfing community.

The Gordonvale Golf Club team made the home crowd proud by taking out the overall team win against the seven other participating clubs — a well-earned victory.

Other Gordonvale standouts included:

- Leanne Power, who won B Grade with 31 points on countback;
- Louise Carver, runner-up in C Grade with 37 points;
- Deb Neill, who secured third place in C Grade;
- Ros Slyney and Sandy Caplick received nearest the pin.



Linda Farrington. Photo provided by Allison Halliday

Loved Malanbarra Yidinji Elder, Linda Farrington (née Ambyrum), marked her 85th birthday last month with a high tea at the Gordonvale Bowls Club, surrounded by family, school friends, pioneering families and Gordonvale community families that Linda had made long lasting friendships with. They gathered to celebrate a remarkable life rooted deeply in the region.

Born at the Gordonvale Hospital on July 28, 1940, Linda grew up on Alley's Farm at Riverstone, where she and her family were cared for by the Alley family under the rules of the time. During that era, Aboriginal people lived under the Flora and Fauna Act, requiring permission to move about. The Alleys served as the family's 'protectors,' and Linda's immediate family made a home in a small shack in an area known as Jippalon along with many other Aboriginal families

who were all related.

Linda, one of 12 children, was raised in a home guided by strong Christian values. Her parents, Mick Ambyrum and Alice Russ, came from a long line of respected Aboriginal elders, including her grandparents Willy Ambyrum and Lucy Kairi, Darby Russ and Molly Langdon. Although cultural traditions and language were suppressed during her childhood, Linda wished they had been preserved and passed down more fully. Fortunately, the Elders have reintroduced cultural practices and are revitalizing language.

The Ambyrum family moved between Riverstone and Wright's Creek, where the Mohammed family kindly provided land for Mick to build another home. When Linda was very young, her father passed away. She

left school in Year 4 to help her mother care for her siblings.

Linda's early years were also shaped by music and faith, and it was at Wrights Creek, off Maitland Road, where Linda learned to play musical instruments — a passion that would follow her throughout life.

Linda began working at age 14, first in domestic service with Nana Griffin in Gordonvale, then in Townsville and then at the Palm Island Health Clinic. Later, she worked on Orpheus Island as a chef's assistant and entertainer, singing for visiting guests — some of whom offered her overseas performance opportunities. It was on Orpheus Island, she celebrated her 21st birthday.

In 1961, Linda returned north to work at the Coconut Grove Café in Port Douglas before settling back in Gordonvale to help care for nieces and nephews. She took up work at Queerah Meatworks, and enjoyed going to dances in Cairns, where she eventually met her future husband, Rudolph Farrington. Rudolph, a railway ganger with the Number 6 Flying Gang between Townsville and Cairns was of Torres Strait Island and Malay heritage.

The couple married and moved to Innisfail in 1966, where they raised their daughter Allison Halliday. Rudolph retired from the railway in 1976, and the two became a singing duo, performing at regional venues including the popular House on the Hill. Sadly, Rudolph passed away suddenly in 1981.

Linda's musical career blossomed, and she became known as "Linda Love, A Lady of Songs." Touring the country as a country and western singer, Linda performed in iconic places like Tamworth, earning standing ovations and numerous awards including Burdekin Queen of Country.

Among Linda's proudest achievements are becoming a mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, her musical success, and her daughter Allison's tireless advocacy for First Nations people and seeing her grandchildren and many of her nieces and nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews achievements throughout the years.

Her advice for a happy and healthy life? "Eat sensibly, keep a strong faith, and don't get too phased over things." A true local treasure. Gordonvale is all the richer for her presence.



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## "IT'S ON AGAIN"

### Gordonvale School Chaplaincy – Community Fundraiser

Last year's Chaplaincy Fundraiser was so very well supported by the Gordonvale Community. Folk enjoyed shopping for bargains of homemade gifts, accessories, children's clothing, crochet tea towels, and too many handmade items to mention here.

The Cake Stall enjoyed a roaring trade selling home baked cakes, jams & treats. Sherryl Walker's plants are well known and are always healthy and affordable pot plants.

The Silent Auction was also very successful. Locals bidded for vouchers gifted by local businesses, Cairns Hardware, Caffin & Café, Parkview Hotel, CMK Hair Studio, Mamu Skywalk, Hartley's Crocodile Adventures, Paronella Park, Kuranda Koala Garden and Birdworld plus some very special hand crafted items made by folk.

The Devonshire Teas were so popular that we ran out of scones! This year we will be baking many more scones, so people won't be disappointed.

All Saints Craft Group received some wonderful donations of beautiful fabrics, yarns and craft items so we can keep the prices of our creations affordable.

This year the event, at All Saints, Church St, will commence at 8.00am on Saturday 20th September and run until 12.00 noon.

There is plenty of parking, shade, easy access, seating and amenities for all.

All funds raised go to support the work of Gordonvale Primary and High School Chaplain Wendy Van Hassell.

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## BARRELS OF LAUGHS AND HORSEPOWER: NORWELD CUP WRAP-UP



Katie Landrigan, Richard Alley (Pyramid) and Bryce Watson (Bowen)-Photo by Moments by JLF

Australia's thrilling horse sport was back in full gallop as the Norweld Cup returned to the Pyramid Polocrosse Club on August 9–10. Held at the Redbank Road grounds in Gordonvale, the weekend delivered high-speed matches, family fun, and a vibrant community atmosphere.

Polocrosse — a fast-paced hybrid of polo and lacrosse played on horseback — took centre stage, with players of all ages and skill levels competing for a share in the cash prizes.

In addition to the on-field action, spectators enjoyed live entertainment including a two-

piece band on Friday night and smooth acoustic sets on Saturday afternoon.

A crowd favourite was the Lineup Legends game — a playful parody of a traditional polocrosse lineup, where two players mounted 44-gallon drums instead of horses, swinging their racquets as the umpire threw in the ball. The result? Chaos and laughter, and a true celebration of club spirit.

Seven teams battled it out in this year's competition, with the A Grade title going to Roma, while Pyramid 1 came in a strong second.

### 2025 Norweld Cup Results

A Grade Winners: Roma

Runners-Up: Pyramid 1 (Katie Landrigan, Wayne Landrigan, Richard Alley)

Best No.3: Richard Alley

Best Working Horse: "RK" ridden by Hannah Cook

B Grade Winners: Goondiwindi/Warwick  
Runners-Up: Pyramid 2 (Skylah Tieppo, Lesley Landrigan, Courtney Landrigan)

Junior Winners: Townsville  
Runners-Up: Pyramid (Felicity Alley, Tessa Claxton, Lachlan Foster)

Junior Encouragement (Female): Felicity Alley

Best Junior Female in Seniors comp. (Jodie Carrick Memorial): Skylah Tieppo

- Craig Kingsley Memorial Trophy:- Most Improved Pyramid Player Mark Harland
- Lisa Robertson Memorial – Club Person of the Year: Jenna Alley

- New Life Member: Wayne Landrigan

For more information, contact Jenna Alley on 0488 789 312.



Hannah Cook, Doug Cook, Dennis Noy  
Photo provided by Pyramid Polocrosse Club



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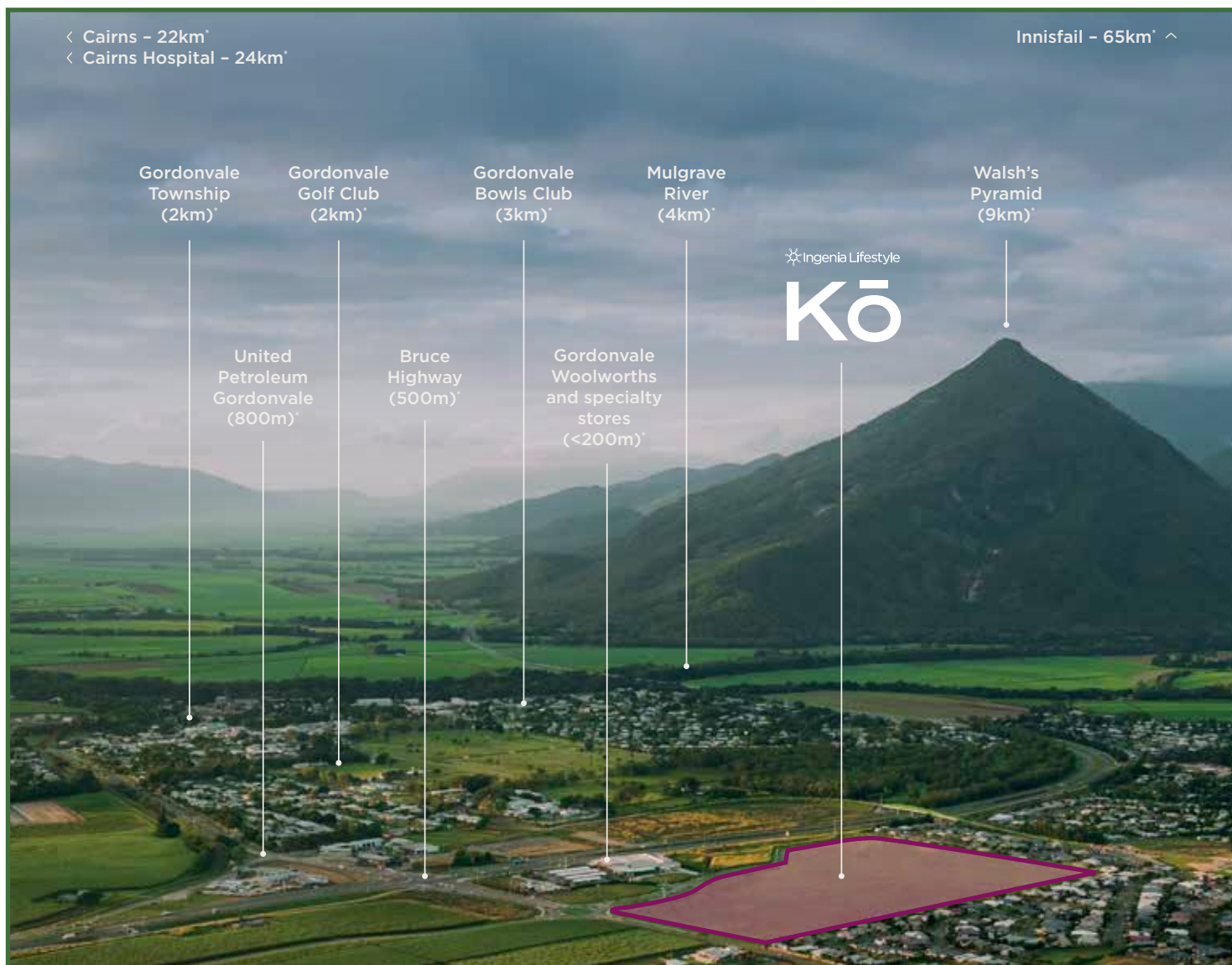
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IN BUSINESS



# INGENIA LIFESTYLE BRINGS AWARD-WINNING OVER 50s LIVING TO THE FAR NORTH



Ingénia Lifestyle aerial map

Ingénia Lifestyle has turned the sod on its new community in Gordonvale, which will see the land lease operator bring its award-winning resort-style communities to Far North Queensland for the first time.

Located at 46L Draper Road, Ingénia Lifestyle Kō (Hawaiian for sugar) takes its inspiration from Gordonvale's sugar-rich history and tropical surrounds.

Ingénia Communities Head of Development for Queensland Adam Forrester said the new development is a response to local need, playing a pivotal role in the region's projected growth.

"The number of people aged 50+ in the Cairns region is expected to grow by more than 23,000 by 2046, and Ingénia Lifestyle Kō will play an important role in ensuring they have a place to call home," Mr Forrester said.

"We've wanted to bring Ingénia Lifestyle further north for some time, but it needed to be the right place and the right community.

This isn't just a realisation of a plan for us, it's a commitment to the Gordonvale community and the future of the region.

"We've embraced the opportunity to create something truly special to meet this need – a community that delivers modern homes and resort-style living and yet still feels familiar and facilitates meaningful community connections.

Once completed, Ingénia Lifestyle Kō will feature 372 homes in a resort-style setting with resident amenities to include an architecturally designed clubhouse, featuring a pool, large outdoor BBQ area, spacious dining and gymnasium – all inspired by the local landscape and tropical living.

"Each of our communities takes its design inspiration from its location – it should reflect why people choose to live here and the lifestyle they enjoy. We want to help them rediscover home in a new way," Mr Forrester said.

Homes at Ingénia Lifestyle Kō will feature a range of one- and two-bedroom designs, each with solar panels installed as well as energy saving appliances to help reduce

residents' home running costs. As part of the community's sustainability efforts, it will also feature community gardens for residents to grow their own produce, making the most of an ideal growing climate.

Ingénia's investment in the region also extends to their construction partners, with local operators engaged for the civil and construction works, bringing their invaluable local understanding to the creation of the new community.

Ingénia Lifestyle Kō's sales suite is now open at 74 Norman Street, Gordonvale, and the contact number is 0733265897. The first homes will commence selling early next year.





## BROTHERHOOD ON BIKES SUPPORTS VETERAN FAMILIES



Clint 'Blue' Morcom, President of the Cairns Sub-branch MBMMC- Photo by Sandra Charlton

The Military Brotherhood Motorcycle Club (MBMMC) made a bold entrance through Gordonvale recently, roaring engines as nearly 50 riders took part in a charity ride that raised just under \$4,000 for FNQ Legacy—a charity that supports the families of fallen and incapacitated veterans across Far North Queensland.

MBMMC is a national club made up of serving and ex-serving members of the Australian Defence Force and Commonwealth forces, their families, and support riders. With a strong commitment to veteran welfare, camaraderie, and community, the club aims to provide connection and support to those who have served.

The MBMMC includes two categories of membership:



Motorbikes at Bramston Beach stop -Photo provided by MBMMC committee

- Service Members – Current or former ADF or Commonwealth Forces personnel who ride.
- Sierra Squad Members – Supporters and non-riders, including those who haven't served but share the club's values and mission.

The event was organised by Clint 'Blue' Morcom, President of the Cairns Sub-branch MBMMC and committee member of the Gordonvale RSL Sub-branch, alongside Peta 'Speedy' Ison, MBMMC Secretary and also Treasurer and Secretary of the Gordonvale RSL Sub branch.

While Peta would usually be seen riding her Harley Davidson, this time she was behind the scenes, ensuring the event ran like clockwork.

Clint, on his Kawasaki, was part of the convoy of motorcyclists leaving from the Gordonvale RSL Sub-branch Hall, along Gordon Street, and down the Bruce Highway, stopping at key locations including ANZAC Park in Babinda, the Garradunga Hotel, and Pacific Park at Bramston Beach. The sight and sound of dozens of bikes passing through the small towns certainly turned more than a few heads. Drizzly rain did little to dampen the spirit of the day.

At each stop, cold drinks and raffles were available, while the Gordonvale Scouts greeted riders back at the RSL hall with hot food and warm smiles.

All funds raised go directly to FNQ Legacy, continuing their essential work supporting the families of our region's veterans.



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## LITTLE MULGRAVE RIVER: A TREASURE TO PROTECT



Olivia Stafford- Photo provided by Olivia Stafford

A growing pile of rubbish at the Little Mulgrave River has prompted concern after a local paddler collected a surprising

amount of litter during just two short kayak trips upstream of the Mountain View Hotel.

Among the discarded items were beer cans, towels, shoes, and even plastic storage tubs — all left behind along a stretch of river popular with campers and swimmers.

Thanks goes to Olivia Stafford, a guide with Cairns Adventure Group, who took it upon herself to remove the rubbish and help restore the natural beauty of the area. Her efforts are a reminder that small actions can have a big impact when it comes to protecting the places we love.

Little Mulgrave is more than just a weekend escape — it's part of a natural network that includes our rainforest and reef, supporting wildlife, locals, and a tourism industry that our regional economy depends on. Littering not only harms the environment but threatens the area's appeal to future visitors.

Visitors are encouraged to leave no trace and take all belongings and rubbish home. Respecting these places now, means they'll still be here for future generations to enjoy.

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Contributed by Julie Amadio- Mulgrave Shire Historical Society

The Society had its Tea Cosy and Photographic Competition entries on show on Saturday 2nd August.

Winners in the Tea Cosy Competition were:  
Knitted: 1st: Marianne Alcock 2nd: Anna Bennett 3rd: Beatrice Soper  
People's Choice Award: Beatrice Soper  
Encouragement Award: Marianne Alcock  
Crocheted: 1st: Beatrice Soper 2nd: Beatrice Soper 3rd: Anna Bennett  
People's Choice Award: Anna Bennett  
Other Medium: 1st: Zina Seivers 2nd: Anna Bennett 3rd: Zina Seivers  
People's Choice Award: Anna Bennett  
Creative: 1st: Zina Seivers 2nd: Orrell Morley 3rd: Zina Seivers  
People's Choice Award: Orrell Morley

Winners of our Photographic Competition were:  
People involved in the Sugar Industry Category  
1st: Nevil Gellweiler 2nd: Travis Teske 3rd: John Dougherty  
People's Choice Award: Nevil Gellweiler  
Machinery Used in the Sugar Industry Category  
1st: Mandy Dalglish 2nd: Nevil Gellweiler 3rd: Travis Teske  
People's Choice Award: Mandy Dalglish

the CWA for judging the tea cosies and for donating a prize for the Encouragement Award. Also, to our photographic judge Nada Petrusevic from the Arts Department of Gordonvale High School.  
Thank you to everyone that entered our competitions and to our sponsors: MSF Sugar, Mark & Janelle Townson, James & Maree Kemp, Sharon Vyner Realty, Casa Mia Living, Cairns Property Office, and Rob Dupeart Art & Design.

The Mulgrave Mill was listed on the stock exchange 130 years ago in 1895, and the first crush was in 1896. The Society is planning to celebrate the mills' 130 years with displays and is working on a booklet containing anecdotes of people who have worked in the mill or are currently working there.  
From October 6th to 11th there will be a display in the Rambler room (which is

next to the museum), relating to the mill and the sugar industry. If anyone has any memorabilia to contribute to this display, the society would be pleased to hear from you. Our email is [settlersmuseum@bigpond.com](mailto:settlersmuseum@bigpond.com) and phone number is 40561810 during office hours Mon-Sat 10am – 2pm.

A group of residents from Centacare FNQ enjoyed a morning tea and visit to the Mulgrave History Museum on August 8th. The Society is offering morning teas and guided visits through the Mulgrave History Museum for seniors and different care centre groups. The cost will be \$10 per person, with a minimum of five people in attendance. To take advantage of this offer, contact the museum on 40561810 from 10:00am to 2:00pm Mon – Sat or email [settlersmuseum@bigpond.com](mailto:settlersmuseum@bigpond.com) Please book in advance with a few alternative dates.

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## KNOW YOUR TOWN

Information and photo supplied by Mulgrave Shire Historical Society

The fires of 1927 and 1929 changed the southern end of Norman Street as far as Cannon Street with the new buildings being mainly rebuilt in cement. In 1930 it was the turn of the northern end to Gordon Street to be burned.

A newspaper report in January 1930: 'A considerable part of the business section of Gordonvale was destroyed by fire early this morning. The premises destroyed were situated in Norman Street, extending from the Gordon Street intersection to those of Thos. Bryce, which, being of concrete, stopped the further progress of the fire.'

### THE PREMISES

The buildings destroyed were owned by Mrs. B. McCarthy, and occupied by S. Burns, billiard-room proprietor, J. Easton, restaurant-keeper; C. H. Crossland, commission agent; Nankivell, a tailor, and M. Zanetich, bootmaker. The private residence of Mrs. McCarthy was also destroyed.



Carey's Corner

Buildings were restored and at Carey's Corner, over the years, were Flanery's Grocery Store, Mrs. Hunter's Store, Lowrey's Grocery Store, Dinny Doherty's Billard Saloon and Betting Shop and Frankie Johns Barber.

The Hollywood Café was erected next to Thos Bryce & Sons and was eventually pulled down and Thos Bryce & Sons expanded their store.

In more recent times locals may remember D J Moynahan, J A Louis Chemist and the Commonwealth Bank.

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## CAIRNS WATER SECURITY STAGE 1 PROJECT UPDATE

The Cairns Water Security Stage 1 project continues to make impressive progress, with several major milestones achieved.

At the Water Treatment Plant site, all concrete works on the major structures is now complete. This involved pouring over 5,500 cubic metres of concrete. Along the pipeline alignment, 30% of the new pipes have now been installed.

In September, attention will shift to the critical phase, the installation of pipelines under the Mulgrave River. This includes the Mulgrave raw water main and the Aloomba treated water main. These works will be carried out using the Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) technique, designed to

minimise environmental impacts. Due to this technique works will be undertaken seven days a week over a six month period.

Continuous operation is essential to maintaining the integrity of the borehole in challenging ground conditions and to ensure the safety and success of the installation. The project team remains committed to working closely with local residents, keeping the community informed and minimising impacts where possible.

**Stay informed at:** [cairns.qld.gov.au/CWSS1](http://cairns.qld.gov.au/CWSS1) or scan the QR code.

This National Water Grid project is funded by the Australian and Queensland governments and delivered in partnership with Cairns Regional Council.





# MAIN STREET MOSAIC TRAIL

contributed by Mulgrave Shire Historical Society

*The trail of 22 mosaics starting in Norman Park and continuing on the opposite sides along Norman and Gordon Streets was a project of a community-minded group, The Friends of Gordonvale. The group was formed in the early 1990s with the aim of retaining the character of Gordonvale before it became a suburb of Cairns. The mosaics tell stories of the area from the Yidinji tribe and their creation legend of Djarragun (Walsh's Pyramid), to early traders, to the development of a sugar industry. This feature in Pyramid Views will share the background of one mosaic each edition, in the hope that you will walk along those streets with your eyes down, occasionally, and enjoy the stories the mosaics have to tell.*

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## Lee See Mosaic

Chinese traders had a long association with Gordonvale. One of the earliest was Jang Tim who sold produce from his market garden, door to door using a horse drawn cart. The Mulgrave Shire Historical Society has a photo of Jang Tim and his cart.

Lee See established a general store on Norman St, just north of Gordon St, in 1923.

In 1945 Eddie and Doris Lee Long reopened the local shop in Aloomba and ran it for a year before they bought the Norman Street business from Percy Lee Sye in 1946. In 1956 Lee Longs replaced the original timber store with a two-storey brick building and lived above the store.

Three generations of the Lee Long family worked in the general store, which became a fishing tackle shop in 2017. The tackle shop closed in 2022 thus ending a long association with the main street of Gordonvale and generations of customers. Many former customers would have fond memories of the



## Lee See Mosaic

roasted peanuts and other treats sold at Lee Longs.

Members of the Lee Long family still live locally and recall that the Lee See mosaic, designed and created by Lloyd Keleman, was the first mosaic to be installed. They also remember Mr Keleman consulting with the family about

how the Chinese business culture should be represented.

The Chinese symbols on the mosaic are messages of good luck and the colours are symbolic of good fortune. The abacus was the means of totalling sales and prominent in Chinese culture.

**Gordonvale Discount Drug Store**  
Shop 3-4, 46 Draper Road, Woolworths Complex, Gordonvale

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**Contact us:**  
Phone: (07) 4056 1206  
Email: [gordonvale@discountdrugstore.com.au](mailto:gordonvale@discountdrugstore.com.au)  
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## Mt Peter PDA

The Crisafulli Government is delivering a major step forward for housing supply in Far North Queensland with the declaration of a new priority development area in Mulgrave.

The priority development area will unlock 18,500 new homes, with 200 to be fast tracked through an Early Release Area. Once fully developed, the priority development area will cater for over 42,000 new Mount Peter residents.

An Interim Land Use Plan is now in effect and enables development applications to proceed immediately for the early development area. Economic Development Queensland will work with Cairns Regional Council, industry, and the community to deliver the right infrastructure, in the right place, at the right time.

This declaration will help ease Labor's Housing Crisis and give more Queenslanders a place to call home.

## Elective Surgery Waitlist Down

The Crisafulli Government's efforts to stabilise the elective surgery waitlist are paying dividends, with the waitlist dropping for the sixth consecutive month.

Longer-term downward trend emerging in ramping rates, with rates dropping 2.1 percentage points in the three months to June, compared to the same time last year.

The Crisafulli Government is delivering on its commitment to stabilise the elective surgery waitlist, with new figures showing a decline over two consecutive quarters.

The Crisafulli Government's record Health Budget committed \$1.75 billion over four years towards additional surgeries, on top of the \$100 million Surgery Connect Surge announced in February.

## Kickstarter Grants

The Crisafulli Government is delivering on its election commitment to fund early intervention programs to break the cycle of crime, with the first \$10 million of its Gold Standard Early Intervention Kickstarter grants announced today in Moreton Bay.

The Crisafulli Government's Gold Standard Early Intervention program will deliver best in class early intervention for at-risk youth showing early signs of criminal behaviour with the education, life skills and support to divert from a life of crime.

The successful applicant in our patch was Prosocial Skills Development who will be delivering the Mastering Me Program in Edmonton and Bentley Park.

## Play On Vouchers

The Crisafulli Government's new Play On! Sports Vouchers are now open for applications and will provide cost of living

relief for Queensland families and help kids get active and play their favourite sport.

Each voucher is valued up to \$200, with every Queensland child and young person aged between 5 and 17 named on a Medicare card eligible to apply.

<https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/sports/funding/playon>



**TUFF TYRES**  
FNQ  
**GORDONVALE**  
**PH: 40 561772**  
**3 Brody Close**  
**Email: gvale@tplus.net.au**  
**PROUDLY SUPPORTING LOCALS**



**Terry JAMES MP**  
MEMBER FOR MULGRAVE

A: 94-96 Norman Street, Gordonvale QLD 4865  
P: (07) 4237 1100  
E: mulgrave@parliament.qld.gov.au  
W: terryjames.com.au  
F: TerryJamesMP




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## EXPERIENCE THE AWARD WINNING MOUNTAIN VIEW HOTEL



Salih Bulbul, Kobi Dempsey, Ethan Solinas, James Brown, Clemence Plassier, Peter Mariani, Jasmine Young  
Photo provided by MVH

Tucked away on Gillies Range Road beside the Little Mulgrave River, the Mountain View Hotel has been serving up cold drinks, hearty meals, and warm hospitality since 1926. This classic country pub is a favourite stop for locals and travellers alike, offering a laid-back escape with a rustic vibe and scenic deck dining.

The pub recently picked up the Australian Good

Food Guide Readers' Choice Award for Best Pub Food. The award is voted on by the public, recognizing favourite dining spots across the country.

The menu features crowd-pleasing classics made from local ingredients—juicy steaks, golden schnitzels, and crispy chicken strips with blue cheese sauce. The Mountain View Burger is a favourite among regulars, and for something

different, you can't go wrong with the fish tacos or chilli beef pasta with tomato and basil—both signature dishes from head chef James Brown.

James, a Cairns local, has worked in everything from fine dining to cafés and spent recent years travelling North Queensland as a contract chef. He joined the Mountain View a year ago and, with his kitchen team of four, has streamlined operations and brought a fresh touch to the menu, focusing on flavour and consistency.

The Mariani family—father and son duo Peter and Peter—own the pub and are big supporters of local events. They recently hosted the Great Pyramid Race launch and sponsored the 3km dash. The venue also caters for weddings, engagements, baby namings, and more.

There's something different on every night:

Tuesday – Trivia night register from 7pm,  
Wednesday – Grill Night, Thursday – Pasta Night, Friday – Live Music 6-9pm Plus 2 mega meat trays and Jag the Joker Raffles, Saturday – Jukebox, Sunday – Live music on the deck. 12-3pm

Plus, there's a courtesy bus running between Bentley Park and Little Mulgrave, making it even easier to enjoy a night out.

Stay connected through their active Facebook page for updates on events, food specials, and live music.



# THE MOUNTAIN VIEW HOTEL

*"For a brew with a view,  
see you at the Mountain View"*



TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
 <b>TRIVIA NIGHT</b>  REGISTER FROM 7PM PENS DOWN AT 7:30PM	 <b>GRILL NIGHT</b> <b>\$25</b>	<b>INTRODUCING PASTA NIGHT</b> <b>\$18</b> 	 <b>FRIDAY NIGHT RAFFLES 5PM-8PM</b> 	<b>Jukebox Hero</b> You're in control of the music! 	 <b>Sunday River Deck Sessions!</b> <b>LIVE MUSIC from 12PM</b>



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## LIVING WELL

with Helen Cooper Gordonvale Physiotherapy

### Move More, Live Longer: How Exercise Helps Prevent Cancer and Boosts Survival

There's growing scientific evidence that regular physical activity not only reduces the risk of developing cancer but also improves outcomes for those who have already been diagnosed.

Exercise plays a powerful role in cancer prevention. Studies have shown that being physically active lowers the risk of several types of cancer, including breast, bowel (colorectal), endometrial, and even lung cancer. One reason for this is that exercise helps regulate hormones such as insulin and estrogen, which in high levels can contribute to cancer growth.

Physical activity also reduces inflammation and helps keep the immune system functioning optimally—both important defences against cancer.

But the benefits don't stop there. For people undergoing cancer treatment or in recovery, exercise can improve strength, reduce fatigue, ease anxiety and depression, and enhance quality of life. Most remarkably, consistent exercise after a cancer diagnosis has been linked to better survival rates, particularly for breast, colon, and prostate cancers. For example, breast cancer survivors who engage in moderate activity—such as brisk walking for 30 minutes five times a week—can reduce their risk of recurrence and death by up to 40%.

You don't have to run marathons to see benefits. The key is regularity and choosing activities that are enjoyable and manageable. Walking, swimming, cycling, dancing, or even gardening can all count. For older adults or those with mobility issues, gentle stretching and strength-based programs are beneficial too.

Cancer Council Australia recommends at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity or 75 minutes of vigorous-intensity exercise per week, along with muscle-strengthening exercises on at least two days per week. These guidelines aren't just for prevention—they're also safe and encouraged during and after cancer treatment, with advice from health professionals.

In short, staying active is one of the best investments you can make for your long-term health. It's never too late to start moving more. Whether you're preventing cancer or living with it, exercise is a powerful tool to help you live better and longer. Talk to your local physiotherapist or doctor about a safe, tailored exercise plan that suits your needs.



Organisations and community groups with notices in the Connecting to Community section please notify the editor ([PyramidViews@bigpond.com](mailto:PyramidViews@bigpond.com)) with any changes or updates by the deadline, the 15th of each month for the following month's edition.

# THE WILL & ALL

Inheritance Lawyers

Wills and estate planning, probate and letters of administration  
Contested wills, estate disputes, and family provision claims

*Visiting Gordonvale, Innisfail, and Mission Beach*

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Well, the month of August has been a beautiful winter's month for our Far North Qld which made for a perfect day of running in our signature event for Gordonvale, the Great Pyramid Race 2025.

Once again, the volunteer race committee under President Renee Edwards did a mighty job in bringing it all together on the day, with everyone returning safely from the mountain. This event is growing in stature and combined with the Gordonvale Cottage Markets in the morning in Norman Park, organisers estimated a record crowd of up to 7,000 throughout the day.

Cairns Regional Council along with Woolworths were major sponsors but for the first time ever full sponsorship of all events were covered, showing the growing stature of the event. A big thank you to all sponsors for supporting the event and our local community.

Terry James MP for Mulgrave joined me in promoting the National Heart Foundation

fund raising campaign of 7,000 steps a day in August, where we 'walked' to the base and back in his sponsored 'Race to the Base' event on the day. We had plenty of support from the crowd in our red heart warrior t-shirts, at the back of all the runners making sure no-one was left behind.

I have been very excited in seeing all of the current building developments in and around Gordonvale, showing investment confidence along with significant employment. I was invited to the sod turning of Ingenia Lifestyle Co in Fisher Road Gordonvale, a 372 dwelling lot project of 1,2 and 2 bedroom plus study dwellings, with a Community/Club hall, Arts and Craft, indoor sports like pickle ball, and a swimming pool to compliment the lifestyle offerings. The new medical centre, gym, pharmacy, coffee shop is also progressing at Cutters Boulevard with an anticipated opening date of November 2025. It aligns with my

mantra of 'making things happen, getting things done, in Division1'.

Another event I attended was the opening of the Cairns Mudcrabs Swimming Carnival held at the Gordonvale swimming pool. Our Council provided grant funding of \$3,000 for the event. Participants came from as far a field as New South Wales and South East Qld to the meet. Pyramid Polocrosse also hosted their two-day carnival at their grounds at Redbank Road during the month, and I was pleased to personally participate as a sponsor in support of the club.

Another exciting project that I have championed and will now get underway is the large footpath connection in Fisher Road, from the dog off leash area all the way west to the intersection with Dempsey Street. This will provide for improved connectivity and healthy living. As they say, "it's all happening in Gordy" at the moment.

### GORDONVALE COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP (GCAG)

Hello Gordonvale friends and supporters, We're excited to share the incredible progress your Gordonvale Community Action Group has made — and to invite you to be part of an even brighter future!

Over the past year, our focus has been on three key priorities:

- Finding a new home for our cherished Museum
- Beautifying the Gordonvale Business Centre
- Bringing Gordonvale into the digital age

These goals have evolved into something even bigger: the creation of a vibrant tourism experience. With our Village Square, rich architectural heritage, working Sugar Mill, stunning mosaics, and unique local stories, Gordonvale's "Old Town" is ready to shine — and the Museum relocation has become the heart of our new Cultural Precinct Project.

#### Museum Relocation & Cultural Precinct

The Museum's current site is only secure until 2029. On 11 March 2025, GCAG formally requested that 99–101 Norman Street be transferred from State Government ownership to Cairns Regional Council. We're thrilled that the Member for Mulgrave, Terry James MP and Division 1 Cr Brett Moller are strongly supporting this initiative.

We also launched the Gordonvale Economic Development Strategy 2025–2026, successfully securing a \$5,000 CRC IEDF grant to fund its development. Cummings Economics is now working with us to highlight tourism opportunities and design the Cultural Precinct as a key economic driver.

An exciting new partnership is in the works — the Mourilyan Sugar Museum, closed since Cyclone Jasper in 2023, has expressed interest in showcasing its incredible sugar

history collection within our proposed Cultural Precinct. A Cultural Precinct Steering Committee has already been formed with strong backing from State and Local Government.

#### Celebrating Our History

In 2026, Cairns will celebrate its 150th birthday! Under the leadership of David Cannon, our Historical Arm has applied for funding to install heritage building plaques in Gordonvale with historic photos and stories — connecting past and present in a way locals and visitors will love.

#### Going Digital

We're building a comprehensive Gordonvale website for residents and visitors, featuring community groups, sporting clubs, schools, churches, and more. This will be a go-to hub

for everything happening in town.

#### Events that Bring Us Together

The 5th Gordonvale Sugar Solstice (14 June 2025) was a huge success! Next year, we plan to add a Friday night dinner/dance to make the celebration even bigger. The Gordonvale Carols team is also preparing for this year's magical evening in Norman Park on Sunday, 30 November.

#### Why We Need You

Gordonvale's future depends on passionate, forward-thinking people like you. Together, we can shape a town that honours its past, celebrates its present, and builds a future that generations will be proud of.

Join us, share your ideas, and be part of Gordonvale's story!

Membership is \$60 per annum.

[contact@gordonvalechamber.com.au](mailto:contact@gordonvalechamber.com.au)

Thank You  
for your support.

**Brett Moller**

As your Cairns Regional Councillor for Division 1  
please don't hesitate to get in contact with me  
with issues that concern our division.

P: 07 4044 3071 M: 0438 978 042 email: [b.moller@cairns.qld.gov.au](mailto:b.moller@cairns.qld.gov.au)

# Connecting to Community

## WHEN AND WHERE

### EVENTS

#### AUST. GOVT MOBILE SERVICE CENTRE

Thurs 4th September  
9:30am- 4pm  
Opp shopping precinct  
Norman St., Gordonvale

#### BABINDA HARVEST FESTIVAL

Saturday 6th September  
Rides, markets, competitions,  
live music, street parade, fireworks

#### DULABED & MALANBARRA YIDINJI ABORIGINAL CORPORATION OPEN DAY

Sat 6th September  
8am- 11am  
DMYAC Centre  
(old police station)

#### WOMEN'S SACRED CIRCLES

Tues 16th September  
DAY 11.30am, start 11.45am  
Plus "Something special with Jodie"  
CWA Hall Gordonvale \$30  
Contact Yvette to Book 0438 441 974

#### ALL SAINTS GORDONVALE SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY FUNDRAISER

Saturday 20 September  
from 8am to 12 noon  
All Saints Church  
Church street Gordonvale

#### GORDONVALE TURF CLUB

Gordonvale Cup  
Sat 4th October  
Gates open 11am

#### MALANDA BULL RIDE

Saturday 11th October  
Gates open at 2pm  
Malanda Showgrounds

#### GORDONVALE INDIGENOUS RUGBY LEAGUE CARNIVAL

17-19 October  
Alley Park Gordonvale

### REGULAR HAPPENINGS

#### ALPHA YOUTH SERIES DISCUSSION GROUP

Friday 6-8pm All Saints Church - Games & Pizza  
Contact: Robyn Gray 0427 777 137 or  
Kay Graham 0427 325 088

#### AQUA AEROBICS

Thur 10am  
Gordonvale Aquatic Centre

#### CAIRNS MUDCRABS SWIMMING CLUB

For swimmers 18 years+ Gordonvale  
Aquatic Centre, Sun 9:15am  
Gaby Donnelly 0417 626 279

#### SWIM CAIRNS ADULT SQUAD

Gordonvale Aquatic centre Wed 5:45-7pm  
Ph: Gaby Donnelly 0417 626 279  
[Swimcairns1@gmail.com](mailto:Swimcairns1@gmail.com)

#### SOCIAL TENNIS

Tues morning 7-9am Norman Park  
Linda Zanetich 0429678195

#### GORDONVALE TENNIS CLUB

Norman Park, Gordonvale  
Kids Learn to Play Tennis Thursday and Fridays  
after school. For more details see Facebook  
Gordonvale Tennis Club.  
Guy 0417 648 597 [Guy@blitztennis.com.au](mailto:Guy@blitztennis.com.au)

#### YOGA WITH MARILYN

General Yoga CWA Hall Norman St  
Mon 5.45-7.15pm, Thurs 9.30-11am  
Seniors Chair Yoga - The Hub Cannon St  
Tues 1 - 2pm  
Marilyn 0423045145 [mazzap50@bigpond.net.au](mailto:mazzap50@bigpond.net.au)

#### YOGA AT JOHNSON PARK

Tues 3:15-4:30pm Athletic Hall, Johnson Park  
68-108 Campbell St, Gordonvale  
Ph: Ingrid 0491 006 383

#### ACTIVE LIVING FREE FITNESS

Zumba Gold - Mon 9am - 10am  
Norman Park

#### GORDONVALE RUN CLUB

Run, Jog or Walk Sat 6am  
From Bungara Heritage Trail, Mill St Gordonvale

#### BOB ROSSI DANCERS

Each Friday evening, 7pm-9pm Gordonvale RSL  
Come and learn different styles of dance, Great  
for beginners too ! Cost is only \$5.00  
Teaching by Jim Fapani and Debbie Short

#### SOUTH'S FOOTBALL CLUB

Teams for U5-U14  
Training every Wed, Johnson Park, Gordonvale  
[southspresident@gmail.com](mailto:southspresident@gmail.com)

#### GORDONVALE TOUCH

Juniors - Mon afternoon 5.30-6.30pm  
Senior Competition - Mixed Teams  
Mens and Ladies Teams  
For more information check Facebook  
Mob - 0409807285 [gordonvalerouch@gmail.com](mailto:gordonvalerouch@gmail.com)

#### RHEE TAE KWON DO

Self defence for all ages  
St Michael's School Hall - Monday & Wednesday  
Early class 5-6pm Late class 6-7pm  
Donna Ruggiero Black Belt Instructor  
0473814376

#### GORDONVALE BOWLS CLUB

Thurs 1pm mixed - Club Selected teams  
Fri 4pm - bare foot bowls and BBQ  
Sun 2pm - barefoot bowls  
New players welcome Ph: 40561050

#### MAD ABOUT PHOTOGRAPHY CAMERA CLUB

177 Bruce Highway, Edmonton  
Meet 1st Thur of each month, 7pm  
Christina Schmidt 0422176610  
[madaboutphotographyclubinc@outlook.com](mailto:madaboutphotographyclubinc@outlook.com)

#### GORDONVALE EARLY YEARS FOOD PANTRY

Food bank is open: Thursdays 1-4pm  
Pantry items, Frozen meals, Bread  
A drop in centre, all welcome. Ph 4034860.

#### HAMBLEDON HOUSE FOOD PANTRY

Gordonvale - Mon only 9am -12pm 0429462004  
Gordonvale Community Hall 11-12 Cannon st  
Edmonton Tues - Fri 9am -12pm & 12.30 - 4pm  
No referral needed - Drop - in centre. Hambledon  
House 177 Bruce Highway Ph: 07 4037 2874

#### WORD OF LIFE FELLOWSHIP

Sun 9am Community Hall  
Charles 0467057230

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# Connecting to Community

## WHEN AND WHERE

### ALL SAINTS SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

7am & 9am Service - All Saints Anglican Church  
5 Church St, Gordonvale  
Ian Lindsay 4056 5578  
[allsaintsgordonvale@gmail.com](mailto:allsaintsgordonvale@gmail.com)

### ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Weekday Mass Times: Wed 8am; except the 1st Wed each month- 9.30am Anointing Mass  
Mass Friday 8am, Sat Vigil 6.00pm, Sunday 8.00am - Facebook: St Michael's Catholic Church-Gordonvale Ph: 40465215  
Eml: [gordonvale.parish@cairns.catholic.org.au](mailto:gordonvale.parish@cairns.catholic.org.au)

### GORDONVALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sun- 9am service - . 9 Norman St, Gordonvale  
Sun 4.30pm service Babinda Presbyterian Church  
Rev Zac Brasch - 0409 462 111

### ALIVE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday 10am service. 76 Gordon St, Gordonvale  
For more information Church Facebook:  
[@alivegordonvale](https://www.facebook.com/alivegordonvale) 0417 879 877

### GORDONVALE SCOUTS

Cub Scouts - Boys and Girls 7-10 years  
Thursday 6:30 - 8pm  
Scouts - Boys and Girls 11-14 yrs  
Thursday 6:30 - 8:30pm  
[gl@gordonvale.scoutsqld.com.au](mailto:gl@gordonvale.scoutsqld.com.au)

### GORDONVALE GIRL GUIDES

Gumnut - Mon 6.30pm - 7.30pm ages 5 - 7  
Brownies - Mon 6.30pm-8.30pm ages 7 - 9.5  
Guides - Mon 6:30pm - 8:30pm Ages 9.5 - 13  
Rangers - Tues 7pm-9pm ages 12.5 - 18  
Olave members meet monthly ages 18-30  
Adult members ages 18 +  
Contact- 0455527278/0421573707

### GORDONVALE SES

Training Wed nights 7-9pm 2 Simmonds St.  
All training provided. Ph: 40328682

### MULGRAVE LANDCARE COMMUNITY NURSERY

Volunteer in the nursery Tues 8:30am- 10:30am  
Landcare Station 105 Norman St., Gordonvale.  
BYO covered shoes, a hat and water bottle

### CUPPA IN THE PARK

Free cuppa in Norman Park Wednesday 3.30-5.30pm All welcome. St Michael's Catholic Parish Ph:4046 5215

### GORDONVALE MENS SHED

Mon, Tues, Wed 8am - 12pm  
18-20 Highleigh Rd Jeff 'Stumpy' Hall 40561525

### GORDONVALE COMMUNITY GARDEN

Mon, Wed and Fri Open 8:30 Tea/coffee 10:00  
14 Simmonds St 0456238890

### CARDS - EUCHRE & MORNING TEA

2nd & 4th Mon of month 1:30 - 4:30pm \$5  
Desma Morton Ph: 4056 2058

### GORDONVALE RSL ON MARKET DAYS

Sausage Sizzle, Garage Sale - Memorabilia Stall  
All proceeds go towards veterans and their families and the wider community

### RSL BINGO

Thurs 9am RSL Hall  
94 Gordon St Chalky - Ph: 0409 780 271

### MULGRAVE UKULELE GROUP

2nd Saturday of the month Pyramid Retirement Village meet at reception at 8:45 am.  
Every other Saturday 9am at All Saints Hall.  
Contact: Claire Manning Ph: 0427341917

### GORDONVALE CRAFT & QUILTING GROUP

Mon - 9am - 11.30am Presbyterian Hall  
Craft and Quilt sale every Mon -9am to 11am  
9 Norman Street Contact: 0407901180

### ALL SAINTS CHURCH CRAFT GROUP

Tues - 10am- 11.30 5 Church Street  
All Saints Church Hall Maggie Lindsay 4056 5578  
**mainly music**  
Wed 9:30 to 11:00 5 Church St  
Music based interactive play for children All Saints Church Hall Alison Williams 4054 6530

### GORDONVALE FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION

Meets 2nd Wed of Month 5.30pm  
Gordonvale Hospital. Beryl Wilson- 40561715/  
0412647779 [berylwilson350@gmail.com](mailto:berylwilson350@gmail.com)

### PYRAMID-HIGHLEIGH FREEMASON'S LODGE

1st Wed each month 3 Swan Street Gordonvale  
Bill Winfield Email:- [bill@winfields.com.au](mailto:bill@winfields.com.au)  
Mobile:- 0427 267 111 Home:- 4033 6004

### JPs IN THE COMMUNITY

Tuesdays 11am- 1pm Woolworths Gordonvale

### QCWA MULGRAVE BRANCH

Last Thurs of month Branch Meeting 6pm  
Hambledon House Community Centre  
Bimonthly craft and sewing workshops -  
Facebook - QCWA Mulgrave - Southern Cairns

### GORDONVALE LIONS CLUB

3rd Thurs of the month 7.30pm Gordonvale Bowls Club. Wendy Quinn 0402 245 321

### GORDONVALE COTTAGE MARKETS

First Sat of the month 7am -12  
[manager@gordonvalecottagemarkets.com.au](mailto:manager@gordonvalecottagemarkets.com.au)

### GORDONVALE LIBRARY

Mon-Fri 9am-6pm Sat 9am- 12 Free access to computers, internet and Wi-Fi  
88 Norman St 40443778

### GORDONVALE STREET LIBRARY

open 24/7 - swap, take or leave a book at 105 Norman Street Mulgrave Landcare Station

### GORDONVALE LOCAL AMBULANCE COMMITTEE

1st Wed of the month Gordonvale Ambulance  
5.30pm 40561715 or 0412647779

### BENEVOLENT SOCIETY GORDONVALE EARLY YEARS CENTRE

Cnr of Sheppards and George Street,  
Playgroups, Parenting Programs and Family Support for all families with children aged 0-8 years available. Facebook - Cairns Early Years Centre & Kindergarten -for our latest Timetables OR call 4034 6860 for information

### C&K GORDONVALE COMMUNITY KINDERGARTEN - PLAYGROUP

69-71 Moller Street, Gordonvale  
9am to 11am Fortnightly Friday's  
Facebook - Gordonvale Community Kindergarten, Play Matters Cairns OR call 4056 3301 for information.

### MULGRAVE SETTLERS MUSEUM

Mon -Sat 10am-2pm  
60 Gordon St. Contact 40561810

### RED CROSS GORDONVALE

9am 2nd Thur each month Masonic Hall, Swan St. President: Maureen Carne 07 4056 5713  
Secretary: Sandra Downing 0402135362

## GORDONVALE TYRE SERVICE

\*Quality workmanship  
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**Ben Whitton**  
0409 343 474  
ben@cpo.com.au

## SALES | RENTALS | RURAL | COMMERCIAL

### 2025 Results to Date

#### ALL PROPERTIES

Total Property Value: **\$35,786,068**

Total Properties Sold: **53**

Average Purchase Price: **\$675,209**

Average Days Listed: **14 Days**

#### 4865 PROPERTIES

Total Property Value: **\$16,933,500**

Total Properties Sold: **24**

Average Purchase Price: **\$705,563**

Average Days Listed: **9 Days**

### Buying and Selling on the Southside of Cairns?

Are you interested in selling your home but need to find another property to move to? This might seem like a daunting task, and you might not think you are in a strong position to buy, but we would like you to know that you are in a lot more of a favourable position than you think!

Get in touch today for a free, zero obligation chat on how we can help you :)

#### 6-8 Ingot Close, Goldsborough

**SOLD!**



Modern Home on Double Block with Fantastic Views

**SOLD! \$900,000**

Situated in the sought after Goldsborough Valley, is this 8092sqm property, offering magnificent mountain views and a modern home. The property is fully fenced and has room for a horse or two.

#### 1&2/ 21 Hawkins Street, Gordonvale

**SOLD!**



Renovated Double Duplex in Excellent Condition

**SOLD! \$752,500**

Situated in one of the fastest growing suburbs in the region, this 2 x 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom full duplex is walking distance to all amenities. The opportunities are endless; share with family or friends, live in one & rent the other.

#### 80 Haren Road, Bellenden Ker

**New Listing**



Generational Farm & Lifestyle on 160 Acres

**O/Over \$1,500,000 Neg**

Situated in the sought after Bellenden Ker area, bordering Harvey Creek and the Russell, farm or lease, enjoy comfortable living in the well maintained, brick home. Sheds galore - Be Quick!

#### 6 Cecil Street, Alooomba

**Coming Soon**



Entry Level, Down Sizer or Investment!

**Auction 13<sup>th</sup> September 2025 @ 10am On Site**

Low set block constructed home on 866m2. Stunning views of Walsh's Pyramid with its waterfalls in the wet season. Room for a large shed and pool if required. Auction Condition Offers considered prior to Auction.

#### RECENTLY SOLD/UNCONDITIONAL

1&2/ 8 Haines Street, Gordonvale - \$655,500

Lot 1 Bruce Highway Fishery Falls - \$1,300,000

25-27 Costain Street, Goldsborough - \$800,000

14 Klarwein Close, Gordonvale - \$600,000

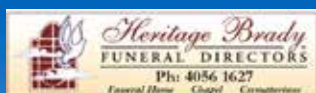
10 more under offer!

**With many of our listings going under contract with multiple offers we have many qualified buyers ready to go.**

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