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**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**Tuesday 2 October 2018**

### **STAR LINE-UP ANNOUNCED FOR FNQ's YARRABAH BAND FESTIVAL**

Australia's most idyllic coastal music festival – **Yarrabah Band Festival** in Queensland's far north – has just announced its star-laden line-up, with Aussie rock legend **Paul Kelly** and **Vika and Linda Bull** set to headline the **Saturday 3 November 2018** festival.

Pack your favourite shades, picnic blanket and sunscreen and get ready to immerse yourself in a full day of family packed fun. Stroll through the market stalls, explore the local art and culture, indulge in the variety of flavours from some of far north Queensland's best food vendors or simply relax and enjoy the sweet sounds of some of Australia's best talent. There's also plenty to do for the kids with rides and face painting to round out the fun. Best of all, it's completely FREE.

**Yarrabah Band Festival** also features sets from some of the country's most popular rising talents, including Torres Strait hip hop artist **Mau Power**, best known for his rousing rendition of *My Island Home* at the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Opening Ceremony; triple J Unearthed darling and ever-rising star **Kira Puru**; triple j House Party host and club scene queen **KLP**; and community favourite rockers Cape York's **Black Image**, winners of the coveted Deadly Award.

The free family-friendly event at Jilara Oval, 45mins from Cairns, will be one of Kelly's first live appearances following the release of his highly anticipated new album *Nature* (out 12 October 2018), providing fans with a special opportunity to hear the new album live for the first time ahead of an east coast national tour in December.

With origins stemming from the Yarrabah Brass Bands from the 1800s to 1950s, local heroes the **Yarrabah Brass Band** will also star.

The **Yarrabah Band Festival**, presented by Queensland Music Festival (QMF) in partnership with Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council, has grown to become one of the region's most popular annual events, attracting a growing list of Australian music royalty including Troy Cassar-Daley and Archie Roach.

Minister for the Arts Leeanne Enoch said the Yarrabah Band Festival is an initiative celebrating our diverse musical talent – with world-class performances that showcase local culture and deliver tourism benefits to the region.

"Now in its sixth year, Yarrabah Band Festival continues to go from strength to strength," Ms Enoch said.

"We're expecting crowds in their many thousands to turn out and dance with these artists, who range from young performers representing local schools to undisputed legends of the Australian music scene.

“Events like Yarrabah Band Festival aren’t just about music though – they are vital for strengthening local pride and inspiring creative minds.

“The Palaszczuk Government is proud to support this event and QMF, and we’re excited to continue working together to deliver transformative arts programs that benefit our communities.”

QMF Artistic Director **Katie Noonan** said Yarrabah Band Festival played a vital part in inspiring communities and creating lasting impacts across the state.

“Yarrabah Band Festival is a wonderful celebration of the role these brilliant musicians, both local and visiting, play in bringing joy, healing and entertainment to the community,” Ms. Noonan said.

“The event has seen exponential growth in attendance since its inception, increasing audiences by 700% in four years, with more than half now coming from outside of Yarrabah.”

Yarrabah Mayor, **Councilor Ross Andrews**, said the free family event continued to shine a spotlight on the beautiful and culturally rich Queensland community.

“The Festival reflects the community’s desire to present a new, more open face to the world, bringing energy and healing to our community,” the Mayor said.

“Sharing our people’s stories and country with visitors from far and wide fills us all with great pride.”

***Yarrabah Band Festival will be held on Saturday 3 November 2018, with a day-long celebration of live music, food stalls, local arts and children’s activities.***

**-ends-**

Queensland Music Festival and Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council present  
**Yarrabah Band Festival 2018**

**When:** Saturday 3 November 2018, 1pm to 11pm

**Where:** Jilara Football Oval, Yarrabah

**Artists:** Paul Kelly + Band w Vika and Linda Bull / Black Image / Kira Puru / Mau Power / KLP / Yarrabah Brass Band / Local Acts

**Cost:** FREE

Yarrabah Band Festival is presented by Queensland Music Festival and Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council and is supported by Queensland Government, Tim Fairfax Family Foundation, Australia Council for the Arts, Hutchinson Builders, Festivals Australia, Tourism and Events Queensland, Bryan Family Foundation, Gurriny Yealamucka Health Service Aboriginal Corporation, Diringhi Aboriginal Corporation and Bumma Bipperra.

***Download high resolution images***

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/2kb8djzeq0yhwx/AAC7XVWShCDwQ8ECj7Tk1tSEa?dl=0>

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Queensland Music Festival is a state wide celebration of music with a vision to transform lives and communities through music. Queensland Music Festival is an initiative of the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland.

Website: [www.qmf.org.au](http://www.qmf.org.au)

Facebook – Yarrabah Band Festival: <https://www.facebook.com/yarrabahbandfest/>

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